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THE TIMES

No. 64,872 MONDAY FEBRUARY 7 1994

Demands grow for Western military action after 68 are killed in Sarajevo marketplace

Clinton calls crisis talks on massacre

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, JAMES LANDALE AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

WORLD leaders were last night united in their condemnation of the massacre of 68 people in a Sarajevo marketplace — but nowhere near agreement on how to halt the Bosnian bloodshed.

As demands grew for Western military intervention, President Clinton summoned an emergency gathering of his national defence team while Britain and France called for an urgent meeting of Nato. Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, said the West should lay down an ultimatum demanding the removal of weapons within striking distance of Sarajevo, with the th[illegible] air attacks on Serb [illegible] f the deadline were not met. But there remained a strong body of opinion against such action and while European Union foreign ministers will certainly express outrage at the latest atrocity when they meet today, they are likely to do little more than call for America to play a greater role.

Mr Clinton's first reaction was to order American planes to help with the evacuation of the 200 people wounded in Saturday's mortar attack and to instruct Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, to consult with America's allies on "appropriate next steps". Lloyd Bentsen, the Treasury Secretary, said that air strikes were among the options being considered, but William Perry, the new Defence Secretary, promised that America would not invoke such action without consulting allies who have 28,000 troops on the ground. "If air strikes are Act One of a new melodrama, what is Act Two? What is Act Three? What is the conclusion?"

British ministers were equally cautious and officials in Brussels said the "fundamentals of the debate" had not been altered by the massacre. Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secreary who is on a two-day visit to Bosnia, said very serious consideration would be given to a possible military response, but air strikes would carry a huge price tag: the possible collapse of the humanitarian operation. Douglas Hurd said air strikes would be all right if they brought an end to fighting, a negotiated settlement and kept aid supplies flowing. But he made clear that the West was not about to immerse itself in the war. While the Sarajevo government might wish for the West to go in on its side, "it is not something that is going to happen".

The Bosnian government had earlier renewed its appeal for help from the rest of the world, saying its Muslims faced "slow-motion genocide".

The Muslim government blames the Serbs for Saturday's attack, but the UN has been unable to determine who was responsible. Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander, said it was technically impossible to say where the mortar bomb came from, but he added that the Serbs had been guilty of the mortar attack that killed nine Muslims on Friday, and "the world will certainly draw its own conclusions".

In spite of the attack, the Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said he would be attending the next round of the Geneva peace talks on Thursday. Lord Owen, the EU's mediator, even said that the "terrible tragedy" gave him a glint of optimism that Sarajevo would now be put under UN control. He said the Bosnian Serb leadership appeared to have agreed to demilitarising the city in what he hoped could be a first massive step toward an eventual total peace settlement.

Mr Hurd, Mr Christopher, M Juppé and the German Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, meanwhile spent much of yesterday trying to formulate a clear line of approach for the EU meeting.

Germany issued its strongest call yet for air strikes and Italy offered its bases for the launch of air attacks. Belgium and the 51-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference were also in favour of using force, while Turkey demanded the lifting of the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims.

Nato sources said that the alliance's planes were ready to react within minutes to any EU or UN decision to strike against Serb positions: "Nato is ready. All that is needed now is the political will."

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Rose: "World will draw its own conclusions"

Thatcher criticises Clinton

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

BARONESS Thatcher yesterday delivered a thinly veiled criticism of President Clinton for granting a visa to Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, to visit America last week.

During a visit to Washington for Ronald Reagan's 83rd birthday, Lady Thatcher told David Brinkley on ABC television's *This Week* that "no democracy should have any truck with terrorism". She refrained from personal criticism of the President, who is known personally to have made the visa decision.

She also strongly criticised Western policy on Bosnia. Having in the past advocated air strikes on Serb forces, she said: "it would have been much better had you taken the advice which those of us were giving over a year and a half ago ... the West says soft words and empty threats. It will not do."

Photograph, page 18

Order The Times and freeze the price at 30p

Details, page 5; Coupon, page 14

A victim of Saturday's mortar shell being lifted by UN troops into their armoured ambulance at the start of his evacuation to Germany

Nothing but tears in the market of mourning

Joel Brand tells of the horror inflicted on Sarajevo's suffering people by a single 120mm shell

FOR the first time in many, many months, no vendor hawked puny, weathered vegetables in the Markale marketplace in Sarajevo.

No old men tried to sell well worn pairs of shoes for food money. No young women offered chocolate bars imported for United Nations troops. Even the never-deterred army of cigarette traders was missing. Yesterday, nobody sold anything there.

It was deathly still, silent. A haunted place. Bare metal stalls arranged too neatly. Passers-by hurried past, grasping the hands of their companions, trying not to look. Or looking so hard, with such venom, as to make it all go away. Others just cried, or spat, or left flowers.

On Saturday morning the market had been both a means and a symbol of resistance for the city. Each day the market would be jam-packed with hundreds of Sarajevo survivors. Some of them had been wounded before, but all of them were still alive after 22 months of shells and snipers.

Pitiful as it was, it had been a survivors' market. Filled with men, women and children finding a way to keep going, refusing to hide in their darkened flats and basements. To hide, in Sarajevo, is to surrender. That's what the men on the hills want residents to do. Their goal is not to capture Sarajevo, or even to destroy it. Instead, it is to kill it — to stop it from living.

Serb gunners on the hills above could pound the city day after day, month after month, maybe year after year, and still it would not die. Still there was resistance. That such a market place could exist in Sarajevo had been a measure of the city's resolve: a manifestation of life in the face of so much death.

On Saturday morning there was life. By the afternoon it was gone, washed away by the blood. The carnage itself was staggering, sickening, numbing. Almost 300 people had been hit by a single

Continued on page 10, col 7

1,000 years of breeding kept the royal cool

BY ALAN HAMILTON

BREEDING will out, the Prince of Wales said yesterday when questioned about the regal *sang froid* displayed as he confronted a man waving what looked like a deadly weapon.

Interviewed by *The Australian* newspaper and Nine Network television in Brisbane at the end of his Australian tour, the Prince said: "It takes time for these things to register as to what is happening, but there was no point in turning around or running or anything. You do wonder quite what is going to happen. I wondered what he was going to do, whether he was going to knock me over ... "

There was a rush of adrenalin at such times, he said. But one did not rush about and scream. Smiling broadly, he told his interviewer: "A thousand years of breeding have gone into this, you know."

Sometimes ignorance is bliss, the Prince confessed. He said he had managed to maintain his much-admired cool during the brief but dramatic incident in Sydney because he did not really know what was going on.

"If the chap had hit me in some way or another, that would be slightly different, but what do you do if someone is running straight at you? I didn't know what he was doing: it takes time."

Waitangi hecklers, page 3
Leading article, page 17
Photograph, page 20

Smith proclaims skills strategy for better Britain

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith yesterday delivered a ferocious attack on the Prime Minister as he launched his "Business plan for Britain", intended to create jobs and boost the recovery.

Exploiting the turmoil within the Conservative Party, Mr Smith denounced John Major as "a man heading for defeat" at the head of a "crumbling administration".

In an upbeat speech in Glasgow, Mr Smith unveiled plans for more investment in industry, training and skills, and pledged that the country would be "better off under Labour". But his failure to spell out more specific plans immediately drew criticism from Labour MPs who have accused the leadership of being too cautious.

Bryan Gould, who resigned from the Shadow cabinet over Maastricht, warned Mr Smith that unless he came out with precise pledges Labour would lose the next election. Ben Pimlott, chairman of the influential Fabian Society, said that Labour was in danger of "boring the electorate to death".

Mr Gould, who has called for higher taxes and increased public spending, accused Labour of courting the better-off and abandoning the party's core supporters. "We have given up supporting the interests of the workers, and for peculiar reasons we have sided with the wealthy."

Mr Smith was careful to steer clear of any pledges in his address to Labour's local government and European conference. Instead he tried to promote Labour as the party of economic competence. Labour stood, he said, for economic revival and democratic renewal and intended to build a new society of opportunity and achievement. The Tories had lied about taxes and squandered public money and become obsessed with secrecy.

Mr Smith mounted a personal assault on the Prime Minister, dubbing him the Graham Taylor of politics. "A manager of a losing team. A man under constant attack for his disastrous leadership. A man whose position is challenged by someone with strong Spanish connections. A man inevitably heading for defeat."

Investment, Mr Smith said, was the key to success and the "seedcorn" of future prosperity. While the Conservatives were the party of low growth and mass unemployment, Labour were the party of high growth and low unemployment.

'The best Labour leader for years'

John Smith is rated higher than any Labour Leader in opposition for decades, a new Gallup poll in today's *Daily Telegraph* says. Most believe he is caring (81%), competent (76%), likeable as a person (74%), and decisive (68%); 65% believe him to be concerned for the country as a whole.

Leading article, page 17

Aeroflot faces flight ban over safety

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE Russian airline Aeroflot may be banned from flying into London unless it responds "immediately" to allegations that international safety rules were ignored on a recent Heathrow-Moscow flight.

Passengers said the jet was badly equipped and maintained, and that passengers had a lucky escape when a cockpit window blew out.

Safety officials within the Department of Transport, increasingly angry at Aeroflot's delay, are prepared to order a Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) "safety audit" of the airline to ensure that it is complying with international safety rules.

If the allegations — made by British passengers in a detailed letter to the CAA — are proved, Aeroflot could be banned from flying into Britain until safety is improved. Such a move is almost unprecedented; it could cause a serious diplomatic rift. The allegations appear to have such force, however, that the department is determined the airline answer them in full.

Flight SU 242 left Heathrow for Moscow at 5.45pm on January 14. The jet was filled with passengers, many British holidaymakers taking advantage of cheap fares to the Far East via Moscow.

Andrew Cairns and Francesca Baldi, from Brighton, who paid £380 each for a return ticket to Bangkok, claim that the cabin was poorly equipped, with ripped carpets and broken seats that moved on takeoff. Passengers were allowed to smoke while the jet taxied through the busy airport, the "fasten seat belt" and "no smoking" signs were not switched on, there was no preflight safety briefing, no seatbelt check, and no safety cards in the seat backs.

Mr Cairns said: "We were very concerned, but things

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RAISED IN THE HIGHLANDS.

FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE.

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Thatcher aide says business role had nothing to do with Pergau

By Christopher Elliott and Angela Mackay

■ Sir Charles Powell said last night that while he had handled Malaysian dam paperwork as a civil servant, he had not discussed it since leaving No 10

SIR Charles Powell, formerly one of Baroness Thatcher's closest aides, spoke last night for the first time about his role in the Pergau dam affair and the arms deal to which it is allegedly linked.

His name emerged in reports last week as one of two associates of Lady Thatcher to be linked to the project. The other is Sir Tim Bell, who represents Dr Mahathir Mohamed, the Malaysian Prime Minister.

Sir Charles, a director of Trafalgar House, whose Cementation subsidiary is a partner in the construction of the dam, said he had handled the paperwork as an impartial civil servant but had not discussed it since he left Downing Street. The British Government has attempted to reject growing criticism over allegations that it agreed a record sum in aid to Malaysia to build the dam as a "sweetener" to secure a £1.3 billion arms deal.

The granting of £234 million in aid to build the dam has caused huge embarrassment to the Government, as it was given in the face of overwhelming advice against it from civil servants.

Past and present ministers said again over the weekend that the principal reason for granting the aid was that Lady Thatcher, when Prime Minister, gave an irrevocable promise to the Malaysian government while in office. Sir Charles was her principal private secretary from 1984 until she left office in 1991. He then became a director of Jardine Matheson Holdings.

He said last night: "I've been a director of Trafalgar House since April 1 last year. The reason is that Hong Kong Land, which is part of the Jardine Matheson group, bought a large interest in the company. It started in October 1992, when we bought about 14.9 per cent and put a member of our board on their board, and then in the spring of '93 we bought another 15 per cent and I was put on the board. None of this has anything remotely to do with the Pergau dam or anything like it.

"It's not a subject that has ever been discussed at any board meeting that I have ever attended, indeed as you probably know the whole thing has been going for two or three years. The attempt to draw a connection between Trafalgar House and that and me is just absurd. It really is a bit pathetic."

Sir Charles said he was aware of the discussions on aid for the dam as well as the arms deal but had never expressed a view on them. "To the extent that they were referred to No 10, yes, of course, I handled the papers and passed them onto the Prime Minister of the day (Mrs Thatcher)," he said. "It's not the job of private secretaries and civil servants to have views. We handle the papers."

The growing unease over the affair within the Government will probably surface again today when the Commons debates overseas development aid. There are also further written questions from Opposition MPs due to be answered later in the week.

Lord Howe of Aberavon refused last night to comment on reports that he too had opposed the granting of aid for the dam when he was Foreign Secretary. Chris Patten, now Governor of Hong Kong, was also supposed as Minister for Overseas Development to be bitterly opposed to the deal.

Confidential telexes suppressed by British ministers in the extradition hearings of Lorrain Osman, a 62-year-old buinessman jailed in connection with a £600 million bank collapse, disclose that senior British diplomats blocked moves by the Malaysian government to deport him to Kuala Lumpur.

The telex from the then Governor of Hong Kong, Sir Edward Youde, makes clear that diplomats in Hong Kong and Britain believed that if Mr Osman was deported to Malaysia, it was "not likely that Osman ... would be returned to Hong Kong for trial". The telex also said: "It should not be assumed that (senior Malaysian politicians) have only the interests of justice in mind" when they made the request.

The case of Mr Osman is likely to be considered by the Commons foreign affairs select committee, which begins its enquiry into the affair some time in March, after the report by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) into the same matter has been completed.

The PAC is waiting for just a few more questions to be answered by the ODA before its report is written. It had considered calling ministers but rejected the idea because of timetable problems. The foreign affairs committee intends to take evidence from Douglas Hurd and possibly Lady Thatcher and John Major.

Heseltine calls on Major to keep his nerve under fire

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

MICHAEL Heseltine called on the Tory leadership to keep its nerve yesterday as the Prime Minister came under fire from the party's left for failing to take a tough line with Michael Portillo.

The President of the Board of Trade admitted that the Government was going through a mid-term crisis and offered to give John Major any help he needed to "sustain and improve" his position as leader. Mr Heseltine said: "There is no way I am going to sit here as a member of John Major's Cabinet and wallow in the mire of despond."

All political leaders had gone through a mid-term crisis, said Mr Heseltine, but if a leader kept his nerve and stuck to his policies and pinciples then he could weather the storm.

"I know enough about John Major to know that he intends to do just that and rightly so."

Mr Heseltine, who is still tipped by some as a caretaker Prime Minister, made it clear that he intends to play a key part in helping Mr Major during and beyond the forthcoming local government and European elections. "We were once involved as rivals. He won. I respect that position and my interest now is serving in his Government and above all else getting him and the Conservatives re-elected."

Mr Heseltine's comments on the BBC TV programme, *On The Record*, followed Mr Major's own remarks that he has no intention of quitting however bad the results in the two sets of elections this year.

In an interview with *The Sunday Times*, Mr Major said: "I was elected at the last general election with a job to do. I have never run away from a challenge in my life."

Despite his tough talking to the 1922 backbench committee on Thursday night, Mr Major came under renewed attack last night for failing to take firmer action against remarks by Mr Portillo, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, about corruption in foreign countries.

Some senior backbenchers on the left of the party argued that Mr Major had collapsed at the first hurdle. "He tells us that he is going to take tough action with anyone who talks out of line and then he promptly lets Michael Portillo off," said one MP.

The MP said reports that Mr Portillo had made similar remarks in a speech at Eton College earlier in the week showed this was not an off-the-cuff remark. He said: "We have heard that several right-wing ministers have been going round universities making similar xenophobic speeches, and appealing to the baser instincts of the Tory Party. Someone found out by accident last Friday what is merely the tip of the iceberg."

He said Mr Portillo and others on the right were saying things which were totally out of tune with Tory policy. "The Prime Minister should make it clear that those sentiments are not policy, and people who continue to say these should no longer remain in the Government."

Peter Temple-Morris, MP for Leominster, also warned that John Major could find the loyalty of left-wing Tories put to the test if matters did not improve.

Speaking on *On the Record*, he said: "I think that the patience of us and everyone ... will run out as time goes by and if things don't get better. We just cannot sit back and play this perpetual party unity game without quite knowing where we are going."

David Wilshire, a parliamentary aide to the Home Office, described the mood within the party as ranging from "total paranoia and panic on one hand to a sort of genteel resignation on the other. If you have a small majority you panic". However, right-wing MPs claimed Mr Major's authoritative line last week and his intention to campaign round the country for the local and European elections were a step in the right direction.

Senior party sources last night played down recent polls showing the Tories heading for huge losses. They also defended Mr Major's high-risk strategy to turn the elections in May and June into a mini referendum.

The Prime Minister has made it clear he will take a much higher profile in the Euro elections than his predecessor Baroness Thatcher.

By staking his authority on a personal campaign he hopes to repeat the turnround that occurred in the 1992 general election. He is expected to use the Whitsun parliamentary recess, which falls in the middle of the campaign, to travel round the country.

In 1989 the Tories won only 32 seats against Labour's 45 and a single Euro seat for the Scottish nationalists. While Tory strategists concede that the party is unlikely to gain seats, they argue that if Mr Major fails to campaign actively he will be held personally responsible if there are significant losses.

However, some MPs have warned that a poor result would have serious implications for Mr Major. "If the results left the Conservative Party with notably fewer seats than it had at the last European elections then I think opponents would argue there was clear evidence a change was needed," said one.

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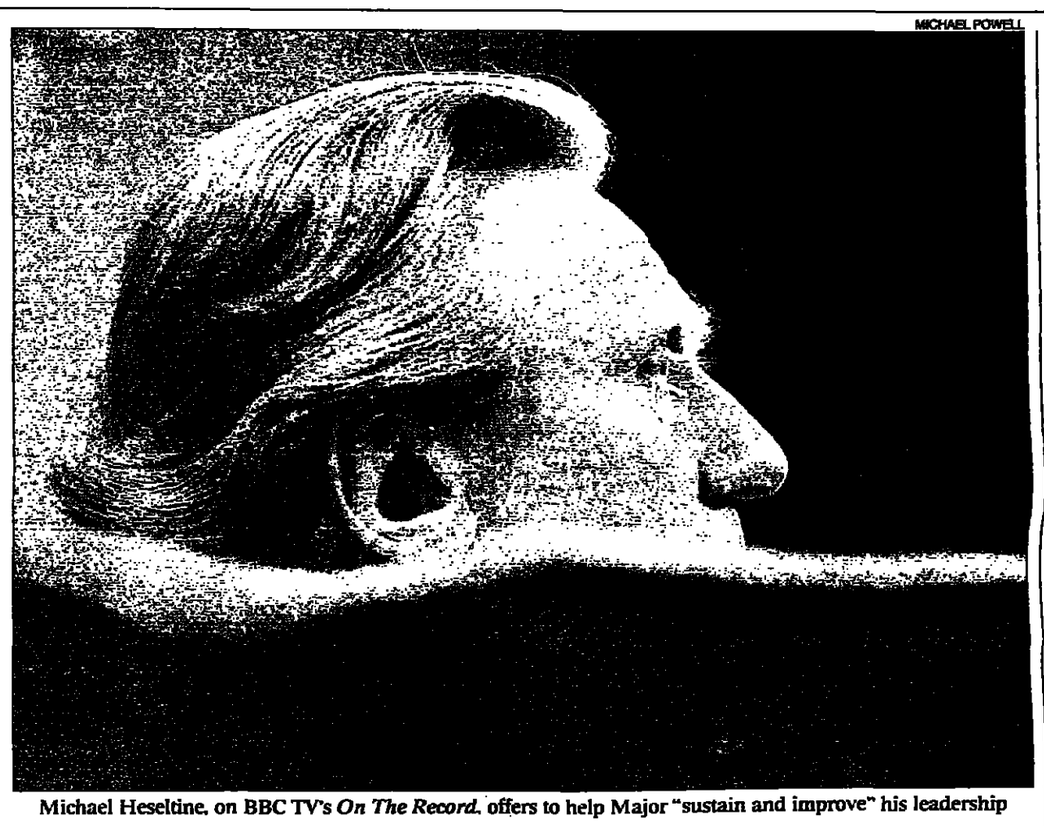
MICHAEL POWELL



Michael Heseltine, on BBC TV's *On The Record*, offers to help Major "sustain and improve" his leadership

Fowler puts spotlight on branch mavericks

By Sheila Gunn, Political Correspondent

SIR Norman Fowler yesterday announced an enquiry into membership of a Conservative constituency branch as fresh allegations were made of a campaign by extreme right-wingers to infiltrate the party.

The Conservative Party chairman will meet Sir Basil Feldman, chairman of the party's National Union, today to decide how to deal with members of the Mistley branch of the Colchester North constituency who demanded John Major's resignation. Senior party sources predicted that the self-styled "Mistley mavericks" would be expelled from the party. Colchester North constituency association will hold an emergency meeting to discuss the branch.

Allegations were made over the weekend that the branch had been taken over by members with links to ultra-right organisations and that some had given false addresses.

The declared aim of the caucus, according to its first publication, is to "make Maggie's Militant Tendency" by getting "inside the Conservative and Unionist Party". Simon Smith, the branch chairman, and David Moon said yesterday that the members were considering legal action against reports linking them to the neo-Nazi British National Party.

Mr Moon added: "Very serious allegations have been made against me and the vast majority of the members of Mistley Conservative Association. We will be consulting lawyers at the earliest opportunity with a view to taking legal action against reports and until that has happened we do not intend to make any further comment."

Ron Vosper, the vice-chairman, said: "The plain truth is John Major's Government has shown itself to be sleazy and has brought the Conservative Party into disrepute. The message to him is 'Go, for God's sake go'."

Before the anti-Major motion, complaints had been made to party officials about alleged disruptions by Mistley members outside meetings held by Anne McIntosh, MP for North East Essex, at her constituency annual meeting.

Bernard Jenkin, Tory candidate for Colchester North, said: "I have made my view about these people clear. I regard them as a bunch of thugs and their future is a matter for the chairman of the Conservative Party and the local association."

Sir Norman: enquiry into membership

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Armour for 999 crews

Ambulance crews in Manchester are to be given bulletproof vests to protect them when answering 999 calls in trouble spots, amid growing concern at the increasing violence faced by staff. They are the first crews in Britain to be given the body armour. An ambulance spokesman said yesterday that the move would be announced officially today, but refused to give further details.

A BSkyB report showed ambulancemen donning the flak jackets, capable of withstanding a 9mm bullet or shotgun blast. Dave Kitchin, a station officer, said: "We have been on between 10 and 12 shooting incidents. Crews need to be provided with better protection."

US chief in plane scare

A plane carrying the United States Defence Secretary, William Perry, made an unscheduled landing at Mildenhall air force base, Suffolk, yesterday after one of its engines failed. Mr Perry, who was sworn in on Thursday, was returning to Washington after attending a conference on security in Munich. Nobody was injured.

Currie gets hate mail

Edwina Currie's support for the campaign to lower the age of consent for homosexuals has brought her hate mail, the Conservative MP for South Derbyshire has disclosed. "They call me names like 'vile' and 'perverted' and say I will get my comeuppance," she said. "Those letters make me even more sure that I'm on the right side."

Jarman 'close to death'

Derek Jarman, the film maker who was diagnosed HIV-positive seven years ago, was last night thought to be close to death in St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where his condition was described as "very serious but stable". Jarman, 52, was admitted to the hospital, where he has been receiving treatment for over a year, last week.

Palace intruder in court

The American who paraglided half-naked on to the roof of Buckingham Palace on Saturday is due to appear in court today. James Jarret Miller, 30, a technician from Henderson, Nevada, faces one public-order charge and five under air-navigation orders. He was arrested after he shouted abuse at police before stripping completely.

Bogus nurse warning

A slim, dark-haired woman in her 40s dressed in blue with a medical bag and official-looking diary has been calling at homes in Abercwmboi, Mid Glamorgan, impersonating a district nurse. She visits just before a real district nurse is due. She has injected one woman with an unknown liquid and asked another to hand over her new-born baby.

Botham goes on air

Ian Botham will be taking up a new challenge this summer as a radio presenter. The former England all-rounder will host BBC Radio Five Live's Saturday phone-in, *Six-O-Six*. He will field questions on all sporting topics. This summer's events include the World Cup, Wimbledon tennis and Tests against South Africa and New Zealand.

Aeroflot faces bar on flights

Continued from page 1

became even worse as we took off. Because the overhead lockers had not been properly secured and locked, they flew open as we climbed out and items fell out. It was a wonder nobody was injured."

Soon after the aircraft reached cruising altitude there was "a loud explosion" from the cockpit and the aircraft dropped sharply. "The aircrew were visibly frightened and panicking," Mr Cairns said. The plane made an emergency landing in Berlin, and passengers discovered that a cockpit window had blown out.

After they were put up in a hotel overnight, the couple decided they had lost all confidence in the airline and returned to Britain. So did other passengers.

Mr Cairns wrote to the CAA's safety unit, which passed his letter to the transport department. "There does appear at first sight to have been a serious breach of international safety regulations," a CAA spokesman said.

Aeroflot, though acknowledged to have a poor safety record in domestic operations, has generally followed the rules rigidly on international flights. Nobody in Aeroflot was prepared yesterday to comment on the allegations, other than to admit that the aircraft did land at Berlin after cabin decompression because of "a cockpit window failure".

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Protesting Maoris harangue Prince with history lesson

FROM ALAN HAMILTON IN WAITANGI, NEW ZEALAND

THE Prince of Wales was treated to an hour-long harangue by elders of the Maori tribes of New Zealand's North Island yesterday on the iniquities of the white man since their ancestors signed a treaty with his great-great-great grandmother in 1840.

Wearing a cloak of kiwi feathers presented to his father in 1953, the Prince was attending a ceremony to mark Waitangi Day, the annual commemoration of the treaty under which the Maoris ceded sovereignty of New Zealand to Queen Victoria in return for a perpetual guarantee of their historic land rights.

The Prince, who might have been hoping for a quieter time after his Australian tour, was greeted by protest banners and frequent shouts of "honour the treaty". The Maoris feel, as they have felt for the best part of 154 years, that the *pakeha*, the white settler, has not kept his side of the bargain.

The barracking from a largely Maori crowd of several hundred people continued during the Prince's brief speech. But at least there was no baring of bottoms, as has happened to the Queen more than once in this country.

Addressing the crowd, Kingi Taurua, a former soldier who recalled standing guard outside Buckingham Palace in 1962, told the Prince: "As I looked after you then I beg you, I beseech you, please look after your subjects now. Show us that you are prepared to spill your blood for us, your Maori people."

The Prince looked entirely unprepared to do any such thing.

Mike Smith, a local activist, directed his attack more at Jim Bolger, the New Zealand Prime Minister, sitting on the Prince's right. "I say to the politicians, the cornerstone of British justice is the concept of reparation. If there is a breach in the agreement, you must compensate ... but you will not be able to buy us with 30 pieces of silver."

> ❛ At least there was no baring of bottoms, as has happened to the Queen more than once ❜

There were no hard feelings towards the Prince himself. Tucking his ceremonial club into his inside jacket pocket, lest anyone suspected a repetition of the Sydney shooting incident, Mr Smith walked forward to present the Prince with a Maori flag and a traditional rubbing of noses in greeting. The Prince returned the rub, but to be on the safe side shook hands as well.

There was more hectoring to come. Tuhakia Keepa took the floor and advised the Prince: "Return home, tell your great mother. Her Majesty, of the hurt and all the pain her Maori people are suffering."

Nearly 20 years ago the New Zealand government set up the Waitangi Tribunal to adjudicate on Maori land claims, many of which have been settled to their advantage. But the Maoris, who represent 15 per cent of the population, are concerned that the government is contemplating a once-and-for-all financial settlement to buy out all further claims.

Struggling with a wholly inadequate public address system that made his reply virtually inaudible, the Prince said: "We are all bound by the treaty." Activists took that as a sign that he was on their side.

Earlier, the Prince had been welcomed to the sacred ground near the spot where the treaty was signed by a ferocious dance performed by 100 warriors brandishing clubs, grunting, shouting and sticking out their tongues, much as the All Blacks do on visits to Twickenham.

Breeding will out, page 1
Photograph, page 20

ROBIN MAYES

Selina Hastings, editor of a new children's Bible in which angels have no wings. Mary is not called a virgin and Jesus has swarthy Middle Eastern looks, testing the book on two potential customers yesterday. She was reading from *The Children's Illustrated Bible* to Collette Bailey, ten, and Georgina Scott, three, at Primrose Hill, northwest London (Alison Roberts writes). The book, to be published next month, tones down the wrath of the Lord. Ms Hastings said: "Sometimes God behaves like a jealous five-year-old. So when I was retelling the crossing of the Red Sea and the triumph of the Israelites, we had to play it down." But she said that she had resisted extreme political correctness: "There was a long discussion about whether or not I could refer to God as 'He'." Susan Unstead, editorial director at the publisher, Dorling Kindersley, said that 'He' was allowed but not too often. "There was pressure coming from the American side, and quite a lot of concern that we should not have too much 'He'; we didn't try to avoid it altogether, but we were aware of it." Ms Hastings spent four years editing the book with the help of seven religious and historical experts. The angel Gabriel appears with a long, plain white robe and long dark hair. He does not have wings because not all faiths agree that he should. Mary is "a girl, and not married" rather than a virgin. The consultants scrapped the blue-eyed, westernised version of Jesus. The book says: "In reality, Jesus would probably have had dark hair and dark eyes. Because of his work as a carpenter, his shoulders would have been broad and his arms strong."

Decompression treatment too late to save gassed boy

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A BOY of 22 months died and his three-year-old brother was fighting for his life last night after emergency treatment for carbon monoxide poisoning in decompression chambers.

David and Shaun Harris and their parents, Adrian, 25, and Kim, 27, were taken 150 miles from their home in South Wales to Fort Bovisand Underwater Centre at Plymouth to have oxygen forced into their systems.

They had been overcome by fumes from the gas boiler at their house in Cwmbran, Gwent. They were found on Saturday when a postman knocked at their door and awakened a friend, Andrew Saunders, 18, who had been sleeping downstairs.

Doctors at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, realised their blood was poisoned by the fumes and that their only chance lay in the decompression chambers, normally used for divers suffering from the bends or breathing problems.

A fleet of ambulances with a police escort took the family to Plymouth. Julian Roberts, supervisor at the Royal Navy diving diseases research centre, said the Harris family were put straight into the chambers on arrival.

He said: "We give patients pure oxygen in units where the pressure is three times the outside air pressure. This means they are effectively having 300 per cent pure oxygen to force the carbon monoxide out of the body before any tissue damage occurs.

"We repeat this every few hours until the body is clear of the poison."

The treatment came too late for David. Shaun was given more treatment and was last night "critically ill, but stable". Mr and Mrs Harris were "satisfactory" in Derriford Hospital, Plymouth.

British Gas inspectors found that sections of the flue pipe at the Harris's home had come apart and were leaking fumes into an upstairs airing cupboard and bedrooms. They believe the flue had been faulty for several months because of soot deposits around the boiler.

Lillian Harris, 49, the boys' grandmother, said: "Adrian had been complaining about the smell from the gas boiler for two years. It was inspected but they were told it was fine.

"He was so frustrated that he did his own work on the pipes. We dread to think if this was the cause. But if Andrew hadn't been sleeping there, they could all be dead."

Nicholas Warr, a spokesman for British Gas, said: "It is a terrible tragedy. There was a wide gap between the two sections of flue. Instead of the fumes going outside into the roof, they escaped upstairs."

Neighbours said that roof repairs had been carried out on the house, which may have dislodged the flue.

More than a hundred houses on the council-owned estate are being checked by gas officials.

Torfaen Borough Council has a maintenance contract with a local firm to check the heating systems. David Masters, assistant housing director, said a full investigation was being carried out.

Tyson knocked out by giants of literature

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI

MIKE Tyson, the former heavyweight boxing champion, has turned to Voltaire, Tolstoy and Hemingway as he whiles away the hours in the Indiana prison where he was jailed for rape.

He also wants to attend college after completing the minimum three-year sentence. Tyson told *Esquire* magazine that reading would make up for the "craziness" of his past. An education, he said, would improve life on the outside. An older inmate introduced Tyson to the prison library after his trial in March 1992.

Tyson has shed 20lbs at the prison gym, where he is keeping fit for future boxing. He failed to keep up with the prison school programme and began studying by himself. He has also turned to Islam.

Niccolo Machiavelli, according to Tyson, "wrote about the world we live in. The way it really is, without all the bullshit."

The boxer "loved" *Candide*, by Voltaire. "That was also about how you start out one thing and end up another," Tyson said.

He also likes Ernest Hemingway for his "short, sharp words", although he finds Tolstoy "complicated" and has to keep referring to the dictionary. Tyson said he wanted to learn about different ways of thinking. Mao Tse-Tung and Karl Marx figured highly on his list.

Tyson: avid fan of Voltaire and Tolstoy

Police clear MI5 over death

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A POLICE investigation into allegations that freelance agents acting for MI5 were involved in the abduction and murder in 1984 of Hilda Murrell, a 78-year-old anti-nuclear campaigner, has found no evidence to support the claim.

The police file on the murder was reopened last June after new allegations linking the stabbing of Mrs Murrell to the Security Service appeared in a book called *Enemies of the State* by Gary Murray, who said he had worked for British intelligence.

The book included an affidavit by Trina Guthrie, a close friend of Mrs Murrell, who alleged that four people were involved in the killing. She claimed they had visited the pensioner's Shrewsbury home to recover sensitive documents about the sinking during the Falklands conflict of the Argentine cruiser *General Belgrano*.

Mrs Murrell's nephew, Commander Robert Green, was a member of the crew of HMS *Conqueror*, the Royal Navy submarine which sank the cruiser. He claimed he was being investigated because of leaks to Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow. Cdr Green suggested her house had been searched in case she was storing secret documents for him.

Det Chief Insp Peter Herbert, of West Mercia police, who has led the enquiry into the allegations, is due to announce his findings before the end of the month. He is expected to conclude that there was no evidence to back up the allegations.

Another police investigation five years ago into allegations that Mrs Murrell had been murdered by security men working for the nuclear power industry came to a similar conclusion. Mrs Murrell, a professional rose grower, had been planning to deliver a paper at the Sizewell B nuclear power station public enquiry, raising safety questions about the management of nuclear waste.

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Law studies become preserve of the rich

By Frances Gibb
Legal Correspondent

■ Figures show legal students are being forced into debt as local authorities reduce the amount of money available to them

LAW students are being forced into debt or part-time work such as bingo calling after a big reduction in the number of local authorities giving grants towards the cost of study for their professional qualifications.

Figures to be published by the two main training institutions — The College of Law, the largest training school for solicitors, and the Council of Legal Education, which runs the Bar school — suggest that the law is becoming a profession only for the rich.

Twenty-five per cent of the 1,000 students studying for the Bar this year are receiving a grant towards the £3,650 cost of tuition, compared with 40 per cent of last year's intake.

The situation is as bad for trainee solicitors. Just 15 per cent of students studying for their finals obtain any local-authority funding and the grants cover only 9 per cent of £4,500 fees. Last year, they covered 23 per cent and in 1989-90, 64 per cent.

One student affected is Affua Adade, 24, who graduated last autumn with a 2.1 in law from South Bank University. She was refused a Lambeth local authority grant, then applied for a £4,000 loan from a bank and was rejected.

Ms Adade already has debts of £1,000 incurred during her degree course, despite working every holiday calling bingo ten hours a day, five days a week. She has taken two jobs to pay her way on the solicitors' finals course.

MPs will be lobbied by trainee solicitors over the funding shortage later this month. Grants for the professional part of legal training are discretionary, unlike other professions. Local education authorities provide only £1.4 million compared with £5.6 million in 1990-91.

Richard Holbrook, chairman of The College of Law board of management, said: "These figures cover a whole depth of financial student hardship and deprivation. Students who began their law degrees three years ago expecting their local authority grants would continue to cover the costs of their course find that they now have to beg and borrow to make ends meet.

"I fear that many deserving students who could become first-class lawyers are having to give up their dreams."

He said that despite the efforts of various legal organisations, the law was becoming a middle-class profession for the children of well-off families.

John Taylor, secretary at the College of Legal Education, said the Bar figures were disappointing. "They confirm a continuing decline since 1989 when nearly half the students were on full grants and two-thirds receiving local education authority help."

Many students struggled to make ends meet and there had been an increase in the numbers seeking counselling.

JULIAN HERBERT

Joanna Lumley, who wept during a slaughter film at the campaign launch

Star seeks livestock export ban

THE actress Joanna Lumley called yesterday for an end to the export of live animals. The star of BBC's *Absolutely Fabulous* comedy said the transportation of calves, pigs and lambs to slaughterhouses in cramped trucks without food and water was unacceptable. She wept when film of sheep having their throats slit was shown as the animal welfare group Compassion in World Farming launched its campaign to end live exports, on the eve of a television documentary examining the trade.

Granada's *World in Action programme* will allege tonight that transport companies break laws by failing to feed and water animals and that stock in European slaughterhouses is being killed without being stunned.

Miss Lumley said: "It is simply unacceptable to treat living creatures in this way. Systematic cruelty is being practised in all our names because we are consumers." The group wants Britain to support a move by Germany, Holland and Demark for an eight-hour travel limit to slaughterhouses.

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● See page 14 for full details and a coupon.

Media 'obsessed with sex in friendships'

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

SCHOOLS should teach children that human relationships involve companionship and comfort as well as sex, according to the author of a survey on the effects of family break-ups on children.

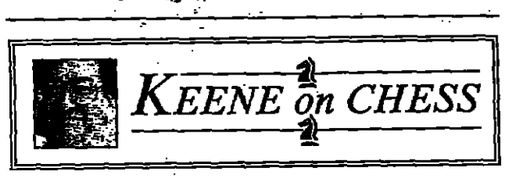
John Tripp criticised films and television for portraying good sex as occurring only outside marriage. "What image does this give young people? The message is clear that sex is important but good sex is outside marriage."

The Exeter University survey urges parents to give greater thought to their own expectations from a relationship and to the traumatic effects of marital breakdown on their children.

Dr Tripp, a senior lecturer at the university and co-author of *Children Living in Reordered Families*, said: "Too many parents think their children will get over it. Some do, but many parents do not realise what a deep trauma it is to lose a parent. It is about losing part of your life"

He added: "What our study has shown us is surprising. It is actually the loss of a parent from the family which seems to be much more significant than some of the factors we've previously believed to be very important."

He said that although the study of 152 children found that marital conflict and financial hardship were linked with poor outcomes for children, it was reorganising the structure of the family that was the main adverse factor.



By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Super tournament

AFTER the excitement of *The Times World Championship*, the PCA Qualifier in Groningen and the Fide matches in Wijk aan Zee, the next grand attraction will be the super-tournament in Linares, which has been designed as the highest rated in chess history.

The field includes world champion Garry Kasparov, Anatoly Karpov, Vishy Anand, Vladimir Kramnik, Gata Kamsky, Michael Adams and Judith Polgar. The results here may well prove a likely pointer to who will qualify to challenge Kasparov for his title next year. The Linares tournament starts on February 23 and finishes on March 14. *The Times* will carry daily coverage.

Last year's event turned into a duel between Kasparov and Karpov which was decided at the last minute by the following brutal miniature.

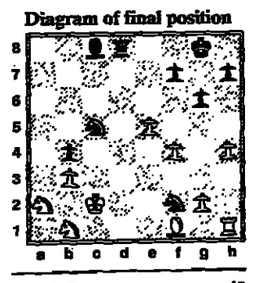
White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Garry Kasparov
Linares 1993

King's Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	g6
3	Nc3	Bg7
4	e4	d6
5	f3	0-0
6	Be3	e5
7	Nge2	c6
8	Qd2	Nbd7
9	Rd1	a6
10	dxe5	Nxe5
11	b3	b5
12	cxb5	axb5
13	Qxd6	Nfd7
14	f4	b4
15	Bb1	Ng4
16	Bd4	Bxd4
17	Qxd4	Rxa2
18	h3	c5
19	Qg1	Ngf6
20	e5	Ne4
21	h4	c4
22	Nc1	c3
23	Nxa2	c2
24	Qd4	cxd1Q+
25	Kxd1	Ndc5
26	Qxd8	Rxd8+
27	Kc2	Nf2

White lost on time but he is in a hopeless situation, facing either ruinous loss or imminent checkmate.

Diagram of final position



Winning Move, page 40

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Spanish resorts full to bursting

By Harvey Elliott
Travel Correspondent

SO MANY Britons want to holiday in Spain this summer that many resorts are already full. Fears are growing that hotels, especially in Majorca and the Canaries, could be overbooked and some tourists could be forced to sleep on the beach.

The Spanish government has set up commissions to monitor the availibility of accommodation with powers to check over-booking and find alternative accommodation. The Spanish Tourist Office in London has written to tour operators and travel agents urging them to curb the number of "seat only" offers letting tourists travel without reserved accommodation.

"Any measures we take could be rendered ineffective if flight seats sold by tour operators exceed capacity in resorts," German Porras, of the Spanish Tourist Office, said. "It is vital that operators cooperate with hoteliers to secure accommodation according to packages sold."

The travel trade has so far sold well over twice as many summer holidays to Spain as they had by the same time last year and most predict that the final figure will be as many as four million, a rise of more than 20 per cent.

One of the main reasons for the boom is because travel agents reduced the price of all holidays by 11 per cent. This resulted in a flood of early bookings, with Spain by far the most popular destination.

The Association of British Travel Agents said: "Spain is full to bursting point. There is only a finite number of rooms and anyone who decides to take pot luck at the last moment and simply buy an air ticket could find themselves in real difficulty."

Rita Tremaine, a member of the trust that was formed to buy the school in Porlock for £60,000 and reopen it for children aged from 9 to 13

Villagers choose selection for the first do-it-yourself school

By John O'Leary
Education Editor

■ An application for the first of the self-help schools outlined by the Government last year will soon be on John Patten's desk

PARENTS in a Somerset village are aiming to open the first of the Government's "do-it-yourself" selective schools after raising £60,000 to buy a local school closed by their education authority.

A dozen parents in Porlock formed a trust to buy the 100-year-old school on Exmoor and reopen it for children from 9 to 13. Their application for government support will be on the desk of John Patten, the Secretary of State for Education, as soon as his self-help scheme opens in April.

The building could cater for up to 60 children with a planned intake of 10 to 15 a year. Fifty parents have already expressed interest in sending their children to the new school.

Rita Tremaine, a member of the trust who has a five-year-old daughter, said: "There is not really very much choice in the Exmoor area for schools. Children have to be bussed to nearby private schools or they would have to go as boarders.

"With classes of more than 30 pupils it is difficult for teachers in the state system to allow them to do their own style of work. We are not criticising the local schools, but in the current system special needs are well catered for but not the needs of the brighter children," she said.

The selective school will have to follow the National Curriculum, but the parents hope to emphasise independent thinking. The grammar school style would lead on to independent schools in the area, or children could move back into more conventional state schools.

Robin Squire, a junior education minister, singled out the desire for selective education as one of the likely reasons for groups to set up their own schools when he launched the Government's initiative in December. The State will meet 85 per cent of the costs of schools approved by Mr Patten.

Religious groups are expected to form the majority of "promoters" of the new schools, which will join the grant-maintained sector.

A number of Muslim and evangelical groups have expressed interest in joining the scheme, and some independent schools are expected to apply to opt back into the state system.

Julie Richardson, a trust member with one daughter and three stepchildren, said there were about ten village schools for children aged four to nine in the Exmoor area. But then choice narrowed to such an extent it risked having a damaging effect on older, brighter children. "After these first schools, the options become progressively more limiting until, at 13, all the Somerset children in the park are bussed to Minehead. All, that is, except those who are prepared to pay substantial fees and transport their children further from the area to private schools in Taunton, Barnstaple or Tiverton," she said.

Richardson: hopes for wider choice

Blundell's School in Tiverton charges annual fees of £6,480 for day pupils while Taunton School charges £10,650 for boarders. West Somerset Community College, a comprehensive in Minehead, was above average in last summer's county league table with 48 per cent of pupils gaining five or more GCSEs at good grades.

Mrs Tremaine said: "At the moment, it is still very much in the planning stage. Entry will be determined on ability as opposed to a fee.

"Some children might not benefit from this particular way of teaching whereas for others it would mean they could develop their own independence. If we do not get a grant from the Government, we will just have to sell the school again and it will be back to square one."

Education, page 31

Supply of homes for sale dries up

By Rachel Kelly, Property Correspondent

THE housing market is suffering from a drought of new property for sale, according to figures from Corporate Estate Agents, a group of agents representing about half of the market.

The figures show that the number of new properties taken on by estate agents is the lowest it has been for a year. In December last year, agents had 32,137 new instructions from vendors, against an average throughout most of last year of about 70,000 properties a month.

The result is that many buyers are finding it difficult to find the home they want, agents say, and it has become a seller's market. Desirable and reasonable priced homes are attracting considerable competition and gazumping in certain cases. Agents predict price increases as supply fails to satisfy demand if more new homes do not appear on the market in the spring selling season.

Harry Hill, joint managing director the Hambro Countrywide chain, said the problem was national. "Last year, we had 66,666 houses for sale on our books in January. This year we have 57,000. If the situation does not change in the next few months, we will begin to be very worried. New homes tend to sell more quickly than those that have been up for sale for a time."

The problem is even worse at the top of the market. James Laing, of Strutt & Parker, which sells about 1,000 properties a year, estimates that the number of buyers over the last year has doubled and its number of properties has fallen by 20 per cent. He said: "We estimate that we have cash buyers on our books, who have sold their house and have a mortgage offer, with £500 million to spend, but there isn't anything suitable for them to buy."

Lack of supply at the top of the market is exacerbated by the number of foreigners who buy expensive properties, especially in London, but who have nothing to sell.

Buyers who have had their money on deposit and been renting property are returning to home ownership as they judge the market to have reached the bottom. They are mopping up supply, but again they have nothing to sell, Mr Laing said.

Richard Isadore, of Plaza estate agents in London, said a drop in repossessions had also contributed to the shortage. "Such a situation two years ago was unthinkable as vendors strove to reduce their asking price to sell. The situation has totally reversed."

Prisoner dies in fight over TV rugby game

A PRISONER died in a fist fight with a fellow inmate after a clash over the televised Scotland v England rugby international.

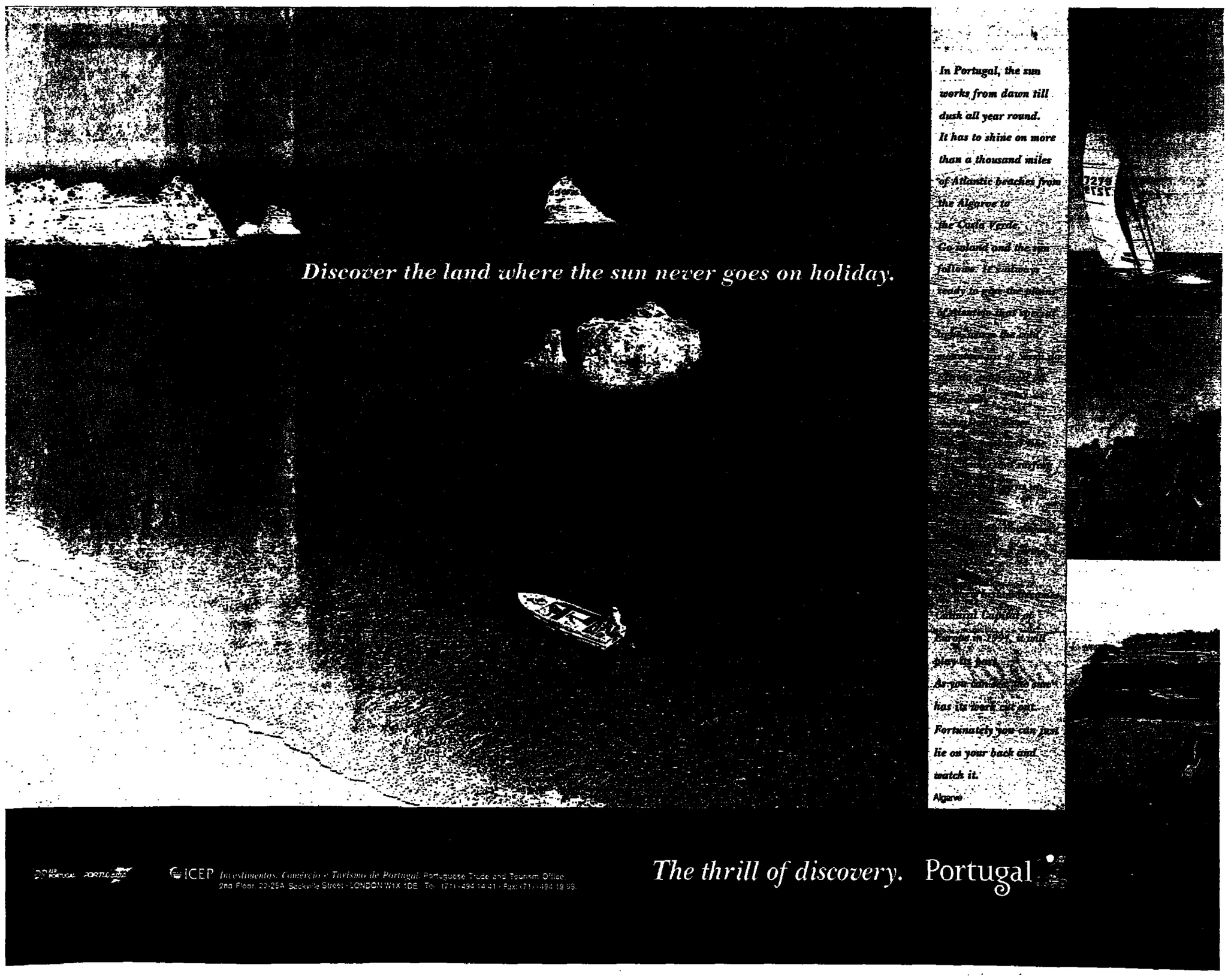
The two Welshmen were in a heated argument in the television room at Long Lartin high security jail near Evesham, Hereford and Worcester, toward the end of the game at Murrayfield.

Prison officers tried to revive David Matthews, 36, but he did not regain consciousness and was certified dead on arrival at hospital.

Bob Mullen, head of operations at the prison, said: "The men seemed to be arguing over the rugby. They had a fight and tragically one of them died. We do not know if it was a fierce punch or if he banged his head.

"The England game was on the television and one of them was watching it. The other man wanted to listen to a game on the radio. We can get Welsh radio stations in this region so maybe one of the Welshmen wanted to listen to his country's match."

Matthews was serving a 12-year sentence for conspiracy to supply drugs. Police were questioning a man aged 29.



هكذا من الأصل

Britain's sovereignty rests on respect for Parliament, the monarchy and the Church

Nation undermined by supreme Act of folly

*Contempt for our national institutions is a continuing process perpetuated by the Government, **Enoch Powell** writes*

The Times Essay

"So we must change things." Thus a cabinet minister in a widely reported speech in which he declaimed against a new British habit of "holding our national institutions in contempt". I must please be forgiven if I exhibit a trace of that cynicism against which he declaims or if, for my own part, I refer to a re-examination of "King Charles's head". So I beg pardon if I return to an old theme.

The central institution of this country is Parliament, the source of legislation, of policy and of the power to tax. The sovereignty inherent in our ancient institution of a monarchy is exercised by a monarch who follows implicitly the advice of a minister who controls a majority in Parliament. The independence of the Church of England and its separateness from all other ecclesiastical bodies arises because Parliament is the legislative body by which the Crown exercises its function as "on earth the supreme governor of the Church in England".

The loss of respect for Parliament, which our cabinet minister deplores, is not due to the sexual immorality of individual Members nor to the robust behaviour which the House of Commons agreed to display to the public on television. That loss of respect has occurred because Parliament itself has renounced, and persists in renouncing, its sovereign authority. By virtue of the European Communities Act 1972, the law of the United Kingdom overriding the law made by Parliament has become the law of the European Community, which has power to tax the United Kingdom and whose court is declared superior to the highest court of the United Kingdom.

We did this thing ourselves. Our own hands committed this national suicide. Michael Portillo himself holds office in a Government which maintains the renunciation of 1972 and which is committed by the Maastricht Treaty to enlarge and continue that renunciation until the United Kingdom shall have become an integral part of a single European state. It is no use for those who sustain and widen the renunciation of 1972 to wring their hands and lament national institutions held in contempt. They themselves enjoy office because they were and are content — as I was not — to implement and sustain the European Communities Act of 1972, an Act like any other Act which is repealable or amendable by the same Parliament which made it. Later on this year, our minister's party intends to go through the process of electing representatives to go from the United Kingdom in the name of the Conservative Party to sit in an assembly miscalled a parliament which will have power to take part in the law-making process of the United Kingdom.

So do not come to me, who went into voluntary exile from public life sooner than consent, and invite me to condemn contempt for our national institutions. That contempt is a continuing process which the Government itself carries forward.

The Prime Minister declared on taking office that he wished to see Britain "at the heart of Europe". Britain is not at the heart of Europe nor of any continent. Britain is an island nation, with all the characteristics and institutions of an island nation. Its independence is bound up with its separateness from the adjacent mainland, a separateness which its armed forces in the last analysis exist to maintain.

There has been a song and dance about the reduction of our defence forces and discussion about how they are to carry out the "peace-keeping" role to which the United States and the United Nations appear to assign them. The defence forces of the United Kingdom are not about peace-keeping. They are about defending the immunity and impunity of these islands. For the better pursuit of that purpose we were wont to sustain then defend a balance of power upon the adjacent continent, a balance of power which the European Community and the recent extension of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation openly repudiates. Our French neighbours may be content to create and maintain a German hegemony in Europe. A German hegemony is what British policy and ultimately British defence forces are there to preclude.

We did not in 1940 have the active assistance of the United States in maintaining our national independence by force of arms, nor are we dependent upon the United States or subordinate to the world view of that country for the maintenance of our insular institutions, with which those of the United States are, now as they were in 1775, incompatible. Much of our present malaise arises from the abject subordination to America and American purposes, which obliges us to await the signal from Washington before acting or refraining from action.

The foundation of the American state is not, like that of the British state, a representative parliamentary institution by whose majority the policies of the nation are directed and the law is framed. We are, unlike the United States, a parliamentary nation. The Church of England, which our cabinet minister, Mr Portillo, includes among the threatened institutions of the nation, was independent and resentful of external interference long before Henry VIII declared that no foreign authority could be entrusted with decisions that might determine the descent of the English Crown.

Separation from the religion of the European continent is the note of that most English of English institutions, the Church of England: and Parliament was the institution under which the Church of England realised its independence and developed that comprehensiveness which has enabled it to survive as the national church in an era of religious toleration.

The United Kingdom itself rests upon a voluntary acceptance of the will of the sovereign Parliament. The Scottish nationalists and the Welsh nationalists will not take the risk of fielding candidates who say: "Vote for me, and I will not go to Westminster." There are indeed candidates in Ulster who do say that, but at the election of 1992, at a time when the Northern Ireland Office was engaged in secret negotiation with the IRA, those candidates conspicuously failed to be elected in contests fought upon UK electoral law and in UK delineated constituencies. Then says the Prime Minister, holding hands with the premier of the Irish Republic, that the United Kingdom has no "selfish interest" in Ulster remaining part of the realm. That says it all.

Our cabinet minister is right in asserting that the health and well-being of this nation depend upon the respect and affection in which it holds its central institutions of Parliament, the monarchy and the Church. That assertion will carry him further than he intended. It will carry him to the recovery of the sovereignty of Parliament, the nation's central institution, and to the undoing of much that has been done amiss since 1972 to the undermining of that sovereignty.

HARRY KERR

Enoch Powell blames the European Union and "subordination to America" for many of Britain's problems

NEWS IN BRIEF

Phone pest fakes kidnap calls

An anonymous telephone caller is harassing women with obscene messages and claims that he has kidnapped their daughters.

More than 50 calls have been reported to North Yorkshire police but they think he has made many more. For two years he has dialled directory and ex-directory numbers, apparently at random.

Police are working with BT engineers to catch the caller and want other women who have received his calls to report them.

PC bitten

A policeman needed plastic surgery after his ear and thigh were bitten when he intervened in a street argument. Three men will appear in court at Hartlepool today charged with wounding and violent disorder.

Rape charges

John Harding, 50, a kitchen porter, of Harlesden, north-west London, was remanded in custody by Wimbledon magistrates charged with two south London rapes last April and in April 1991.

Gun dog stolen

Thieves apparently stealing to order took an Irish setter puppy from kennels at Fairford, Gloucestershire, owned by the gun dog breeder Sue Jackson.

Stabbing death

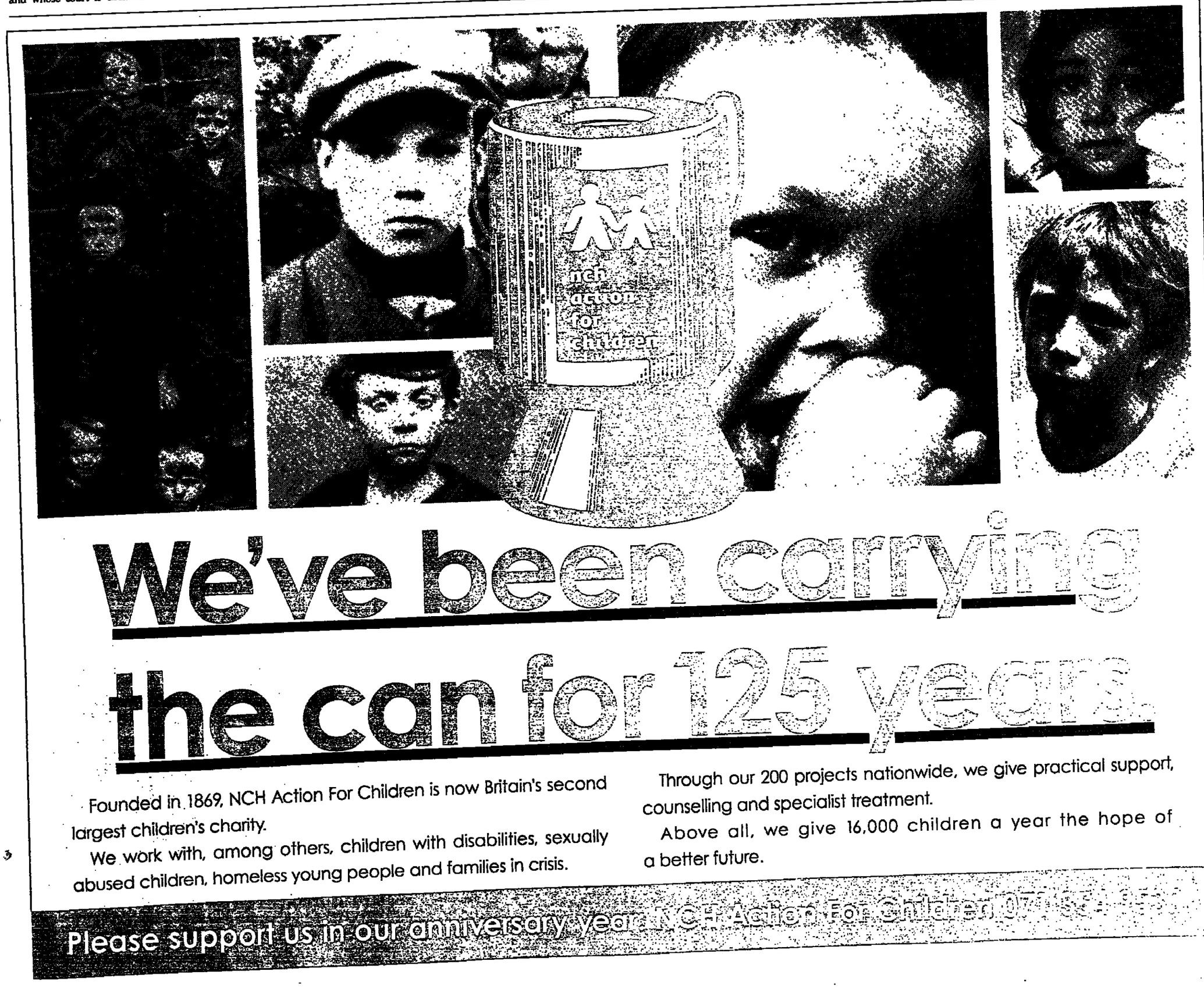
A man aged 23 found knifed in a Northampton street has died in hospital. Police are questioning a man, a teenage girl and a boy.

Road runner

A runaway road digger crushed five cars and tore through garden fences at Grimsby while the driver was setting up traffic cones.

Bond winners

Premium Bond winners: £100,000, no. 2VK 544641 (winner lives in Kent, value of holding £437); £50,000, 23XF 936569 (Co Durham, £1,601); £25,000, 10JB 008860 (Berkshire, £10,000).



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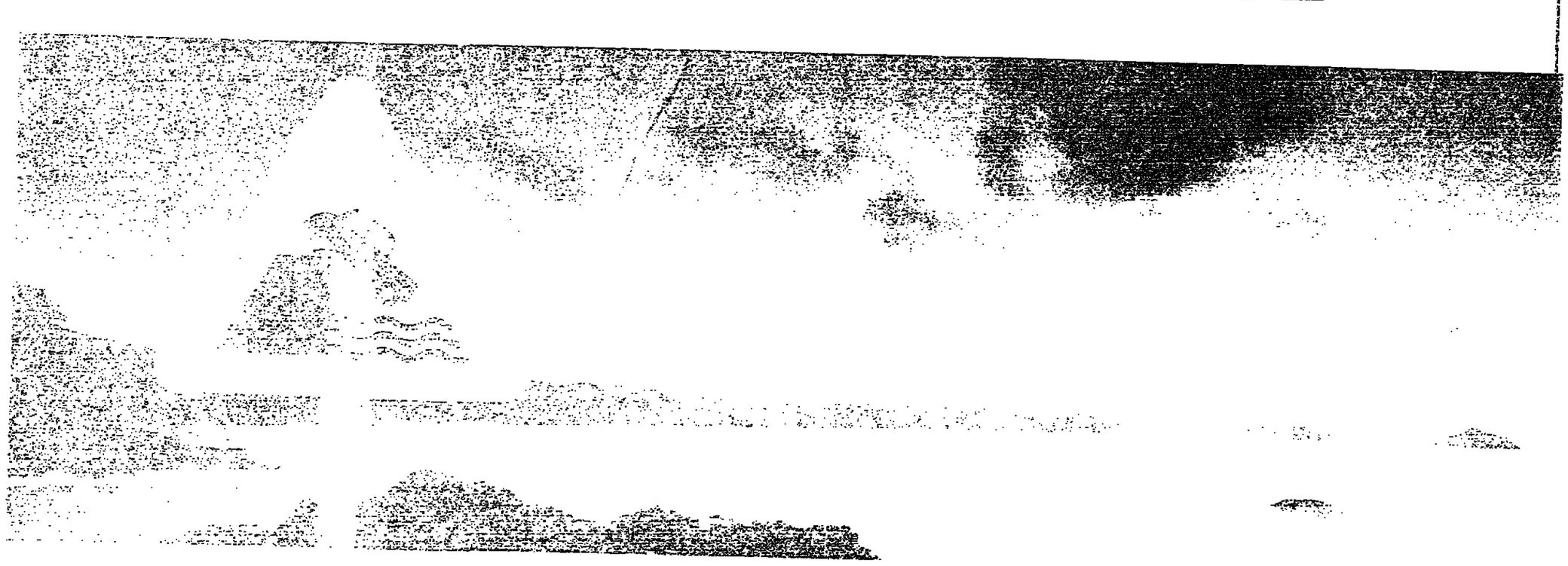

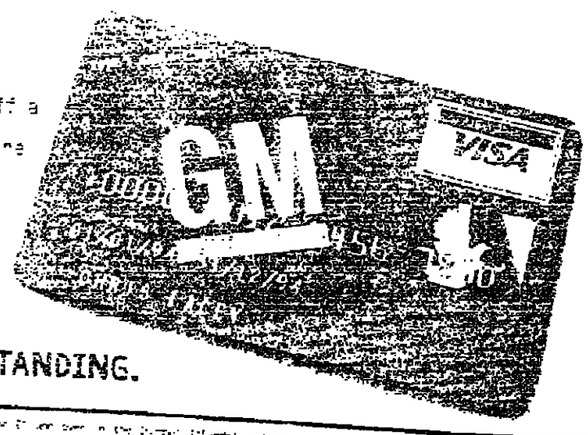

THE NEW GM CARD FROM VAUXHALL LEAVES OTHER CARDS STANDING.

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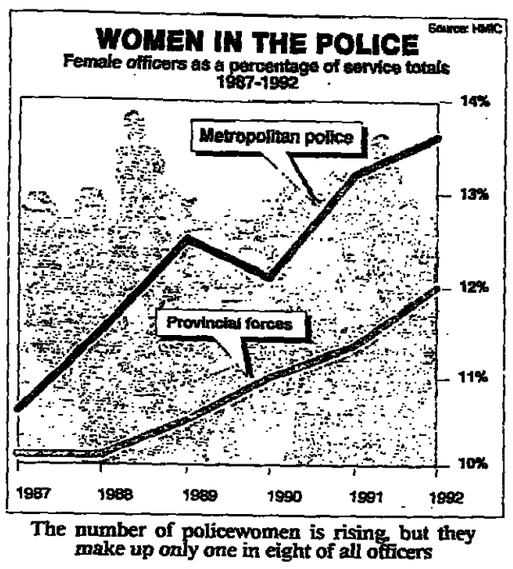
Times investigation shows how female officers fight hostility and sexual harassment

Policewomen imprisoned by a macho culture



The number of policewomen is rising, but they make up only one in eight of all officers

By Stewart Tendler

NEARLY 20 years after women police won equal status with male officers, they remain isolated in a service dominated by a masculine culture.

Film and television scriptwriters create police heroines with powerful and glamorous roles that have little to do with the hostility or crude harassment often faced by their real counterparts.

Women make up nearly 13 per cent of the police strength but an investigation by *The Times* shows that they are held back by Home Office inertia and often outright hostility from male colleagues. When a woman applied to join a dog unit, a senior officer on the appointment board said: "We don't have bitches with the dogs and we are not going to have them among the handlers." This attitude and frequent sexual harassment and innuendo have put huge obstacles in the way of policewomen.

Examples of offensive hostility include spying on women officers in station showers, casually showing them pornographic magazines, groping and assault. New figures from Scotland Yard show that 41 women in the Metropolitan police lodged formal grievances last year alleging sexual harassment. Behind these figures lie other complaints resolved at local level. Campaigners say that in some forces women with grievances have been intimidated.

Such discrimination explains why there are only five women among the 173 most senior officers in England and Wales. Within the 28,000 strong Metropolitan force, which is at the forefront of equal opportunities campaigns, figures for the end of last year show there are 65 women holding the rank of inspector or above out of 3,896 women officers.

Women are still fighting to breach male bastions such as the motorway patrol units and the CID. One woman who applied to join a motorcycle unit was told that she would have to lift a 1000cc machine before being accepted. It was an impossible test that no male officer was required to take.

Sickness figures show that many women have become ill because of harassment. One female officer said: "One of the worst problems is sexual banter. You go into a room and three or four men will run their hands over you to see if you are wearing the 'full tackle' — suspenders. It happens frequently."

The Home Office's inspectors of constabulary are urging chief constables to recruit more women. Chief constables have publicly attacked sexual harassment in their forces. The Police Federation, the largest staff group, recently issued a leaflet to its 100,000 members urging them to fight harassment. The Home Office has just endorsed part-time working to help women with families and runs a working party to advise police authorities on the choice of top women officers.

The new drive follows a series of causes célèbres. The case of Alison Halford, the Merseyside assistant chief constable, revealed the difficulties women officers face in reaching the top. In 1990, a London officer won an industrial tribunal case over whether the police could have part-time working. Last year, the ceiling on compensation from industrial tribunals was lifted and in December WPC Sarah Locker won a record £25,000 for discrimination from the Yard.

More women would get a better deal if more were prepared to fight, but WPC Tina Martin, chairman of the British Association of Women Police, said that complaints were being delayed deliberately until it was too late to go to an industrial tribunal. Officers were being ordered not to talk to the media as part of settlements. One force did not give its officers a new Home Office circular about part-time working.

Women are put off seeking promotion or new roles because they are afraid of being isolated. Many complaints could be dealt with under negotiation and grievance procedures but often the situation is mismanaged and leads to tribunals or confrontation.

Commander Sally Hubbard, an assistant inspector of constabulary specialising in equal opportunities, said that an exceptional officer would always rise, even if a woman, but "we will have equality when the average man and woman have reached the same level".

Gentle touch helps tortured families of murder victims

Lucy Berrington *reports on how a police family liaison officer helped the parents of Julie Dart cope with her death and court proceedings*

BEHIND the cosy title of family liaison officer lies the distressing task, among others, of comforting those whose loved ones have been murdered. Sometimes, one of the many women officers who hold the post will be at the graveside as the victim is buried. At others, she will spend hours with the victim's family, providing a shoulder to cry on as they pour out their grief, and explaining details of the investigation.

Det Sgt Helen Dover, 32, recalls her most challenging enquiry, which ended with the conviction of Michael Sams for the murder of Julie Dart, a Leeds teenager killed in 1991, and for the abduction of Stephanie Slater.

She saw Julie's family every day at first. "If they wanted to talk for two hours I'd stay for two hours. If they wanted to be alone I'd ask what I wanted as quickly as possible then leave," she said.

Julie's mother Lynn was not demonstrative or emotional but "quite excitable and frustrated. She concentrated on the enquiry, wanting to be involved which made it easier for me. There was no self-pity," Miss Dover said.

She never felt the brunt of the Darts' anger at what happened to their daughter. Mrs Dart barely comprehended the finality of her daughter's death and become upset at news bulletins that depersonalised her daughter.

The abduction and release in January 1992 of Stephanie Slater, another of Sams's victims, gave the enquiry new impetus, but shed no immediate light on Julie's fate. "Lynn was constantly torturing herself by trying to imagine what Julie had been through. I wasn't in any position to reassure her," Miss Dover said. Nevertheless, the circumstances of their acquaintance produced a friendship.

Miss Dover recounts an attempt to film a reconstruction of Julie's disappearance. "Lynn opened the door and we both started giggling uncontrollably. We tried it six times but always started laughing. The situation was just so ridiculous."

Mrs Dart's acceptance of Julie's death came gradually. "The reconstruction was being filmed and we needed to get some shoes and a handbag the same as the ones Julie had been wearing," Miss Dover recalls. "I went shopping with Lynn, and it was fun, like a girls' day out. Then all of a sudden she went quiet and said, 'We're doing this for Julie aren't we?' It was as if it had suddenly occurred to her."

The case was featured on the BBC's *Crimewatch* programme in February 1992. The next day, with three colleagues, Miss Dover arrested Sams in his Newark workshop. At Sams's trial in June 1993, Mrs Dart collapsed into Miss Dover's arms at the announcement of the verdict. "It was the only time I saw her cry," she said.

Now more than two years since Julie's death, Mrs Dart is rebuilding her life. Miss Dover considers her a friend, but said: "It's difficult to draw the line. Once the enquiry is over you don't want to cut all contact, but you don't want to be there as a constant reminder." They speak every few weeks. "I'm quite glad," Miss Dover said. "Not that I don't want to hear from her, but it's an indication she is getting on okay."

Looking back, she said: "From a professional point of view it was an incredible enquiry to be involved in: it was so diverse and interesting. That made me feel guilty, as if I derived pleasure from the family's misery."

JOHN GILES

Det Sgt Dover, left, comforts Lynn Dart after the trial

LUKE SCOTT

Newcastle at night, where women officers have to tackle the same flashpoints as male colleagues but believe they make easier targets

Discrimination? Not from knife gangs

By Lucy Berrington

■ Friday night on the streets of Newcastle and for a woman — even a policewoman — the threat of violence is ever present, particularly when it comes to closing time

JUDITH Robertson starts her shift at 10pm and prepares to face another violent Friday night in Newcastle upon Tyne. She anticipates the usual closing time fights, drunken diners refusing to pay and teenagers looking for trouble.

The 30-year-old WPC is one of 25 officers patrolling the city centre and has to confront the same situations as her male colleagues: her potential "customers" do not differentiate.

Since she joined the police force seven years ago, the threat of violence has increased sharply. It is also more deadly. "Once the troublemakers were gangs with fists, now it's people with knives," she says. And women make easier targets.

She patrols the city by car, monitoring radio reports. A man with a sawn-off shotgun has been seen getting into a cab, but no registration number is reported. There is nothing she can do. "Everyone has firearms now," she says, "except us."

A bus driver, nipping into a bar "for some change", emerges to see his 50-seater single-decker disappearing round a corner. Miss Robertson keeps an eye out for an empty bus being driven erratically. It is eventually sighted by other officers.

At 11.30pm, Miss Robertson is on streets awash with football fans and winos rummaging for leftovers. An emergency call sends her speeding to a bank wher a shouting man is prostrate on the pavement, already surrounded by officers. His friends express outrage, alleging police brutality for urinating in a doorway. "You get hold of someone and suddenly he's got 20 friends," Miss Robertson says.

She is called to a minicab office where a young woman has reportedly been knocked senseless. The woman claims to have been beaten up. "I've just been f**** hammered in here!" she shrieks, but Miss Robertson diagnoses her drunk and disorderly and makes an arrest. The woman wails, apologises, says she is newly pregnant and in the van turns wild. Miss Robertson holds her down like a sheep-shearer grasping a ewe.

The revellers have dispersed by 4am and the city is quiet. The shift finishes two hours later and Judith Robertson becomes a civilian again. As she drives to her home in South Shields, dawn is breaking and the streets are empty. She is too tired even to make a cup of tea. She says: "It's a nice feeling though, turning in when most people are getting up."

TOMORROW

On the front line — battling crime and biased colleagues

Lady-in-waiting started on the beat in Soho

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

LIZ Neville is the police service's lady-in-waiting. Assistant chief constable of Sussex at the age of 40, an Oxford graduate and a PhD as well as a former beat officer in Soho, she is widely tipped to be the first woman chief constable in Britain.

If the predictions are correct, she will be at the head of a police force within four years, although the police seemed an unlikely choice for a well-educated young woman in the 1970s when Miss Neville joined.

For years, women police had worked in a separate section from male officers with limited job opportunities or promotion. It was her parents who thought changes were on the horizon and encouraged her.

With a degree in politics, philosophy and psychology, Miss Neville entered the Metropolitan police on a graduate recruitment course that offered promotion to inspector within five years.

Sexism did not touch her. "I was not strongly affected by the canteen culture." The prospect of promotion may have shielded her from the worst excesses of sexual harassment but rank brought other difficulties. A sergeant at 23 in west London, she was in charge of much older men who had never seen a senior woman officer let alone been commanded by one. The other sergeants rallied round. Two years later, she was an inspector in north London.

By her early 30s, Miss Neville was married to another graduate officer. She acknowledges the help she has been given by excellent au pairs and nannies caring for her two children as he career has developed. Using a police scholarship, she completed a doctorate on police recruiting.

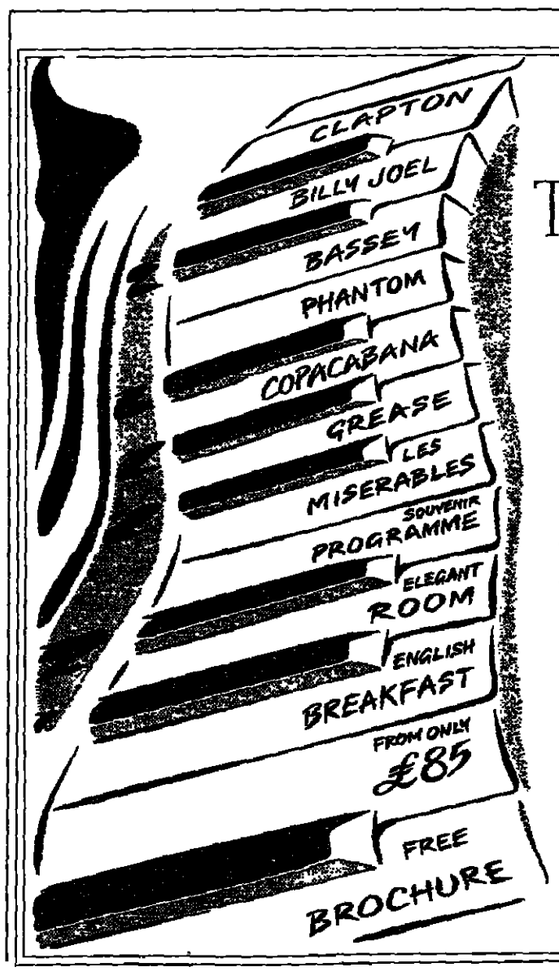
She joined Thames Valley police and took charge of the Reading division as a chief superintendent. She moved to Sussex three years ago and is now in charge of personnel and training but has also been the assistant chief constable in charge of CID.

She is duty senior officer in charge of the force some weekends and can authorise firearms to be drawn, a power she finds worrying. "They ring up in the middle of the night ... You take responsibility for other people's lives."

Miss Neville, who is now divorced, said: "At this level, what sex you are really does not matter so much because from the point of view of other officers you are so senior and to them removed and remote that rank gets in the way of sex."

She believes the police service is ready for a woman chief constable but adds: "What I really don't like to hear is someone saying they would like a woman senior officer. It is really like thay have got to have one in their book, tick it off. I don't like women to be seen as acquisitions. It is patronising."

Neville: can authorise firearms to be drawn



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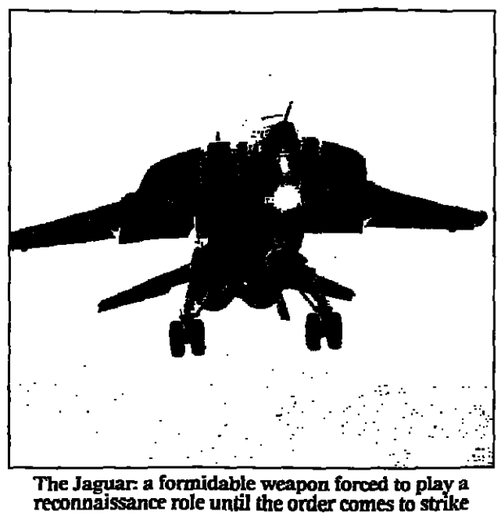
West gives hand-wringing priority over air strikes



The Jaguar: a formidable weapon forced to play a reconnaissance role until the order comes to strike

FROM MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT
IN SPLIT

UNITED Nations impotence in confronting the latest and most devastating atrocity in the heart of Sarajevo could not have been more graphically illustrated yesterday: RAF Jaguars armed with laser-guided bombs swept over Bosnia photographing manned mortar and artillery positions to be ready to strike at targets if the order comes, but the mortar unit which fired the 120mm shell that killed 66 people need not fear instant retribution.

Air strikes may have returned to the top of the agenda, but neither the UN nor Nato is mandated to seek revenge for slaughter in Bosnia.

Many of those who will be involved in the agonising over possible air strikes were gathered at a conference in Munich on Saturday. Among them were Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, and William Perry, his new American counterpart. Mr Rifkind flew on to Sarajevo yesterday to start a planned two-day visit to Bosnia.

■ The growing realisation among military advisers in Bosnia is that United Nations troops, originally sent in to keep civilian aid flowing, are in fact playing the role of combat support group for the warring factions

Neither man was publicly or privately advocating air strikes. Mr Rifkind said "very serious consideration" would be given over the next few days to the possibility of a military response to the atrocity. Mr Perry seemed painfully aware that the Americans, without troops on the ground, are hardly in a position to demand air strikes.

Mr Rifkind's careful delineation of the arguments for and against strikes, as we flew on the first leg to Split, underlined the reasons governments will spend more time wringing their hands than seriously contemplating the first military intervention since the Bosnian civil war began 22 months ago.

The first hurdle is to identify the guilty. Although there is an overwhelming assumption that the Serbs fired the shell, the UN team of experts examining the crater could not make an instant judgment because the shell had first struck a roof or table. When a mortar shell killed eight people last week, the crater assessors could work out its trajectory and the precise direction from which it came.

When he arrived in Sarajevo, Mr Rifkind sought the view of Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, the new British commander of UN forces in Bosnia. The Defence Secretary was convinced that punitive air strikes would need UN Security Council clearance, which would take time and involve the Russians. "They could say no," he said. General Pavel Grachev, the Russian Defence Minister, said last week that Moscow would support air strikes, but only to protect UN troops.

After an atrocity on Saturday's scale, the danger is that any talk of possible retribution by Western powers, who have so far refused to intervene militarily, will serve only to perpetuate the illusion in the minds of the Muslims that the West will one day come and save them. If this atrocity is not the trigger, then perhaps the next will be.

The main purpose of Mr Rifkind's trip to Bosnia is to gauge if it is right for the 2,300 British troops to remain there. If they are withdrawn, he knows that there will be many more atrocities.

The growing realisation among senior military advisers, however, is that the presence of British and other UN troops in Bosnia has changed the agenda of the civil war. The UN troops escorting aid may well be saving lives, but they are at the same time acting almost as a combat support element for the fighting factions. Of the aid that gets through, about 30 per cent is taken by the warring militias.

For the Serbs, whether or not they are guilty of Saturday's carnage, their confidence and cockiness have been sustained by the hand-wringing of the international community. The current manifestation is only the most embarrassing. It will not be the last.

UN troops defy snipers as wounded are flown out

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

SARAJEVO was bloodied and bowed yesterday, as the city mourned the dead of Saturday's market massacre and scores of the wounded were airlifted from Bosnia to begin journeys to hospitals in Britain, Germany and Italy.

But soon after bidding heart-wrenching farewells to relatives, the injured faced one last danger. United Nations soldiers at Sarajevo airport went on alert when heavy sniper fire erupted on the runway as an American C-130 cargo plane arrived to begin moving the casualties.

The UN's two top officials in former Yugoslavia — the retiring military commander General Jean Cot, and the operation's overall chief, Yasushi Akashi — visited the devastated Bosnian capital during the day, touring the market and meeting government officials. They went on to meet Bosnian Serb leaders in the Sarajevo suburub of Lukavica.

Nearly 60 war casualties — most of them victims of Saturday's shelling — and 40 relatives were flying to an American military hospital in Germany last night. Britain has offered to take up to ten of the 200 people injured in the mortar attack and has sent a medical team to join the airlift.

Doctors at the city's main Kosevo hospital said they had at least 32 seriously wounded people for the emergency evacuation, and that the list could grow to 50. The evacuation, which continues today, will be the largest since the Bosnian conflict began in April 1992.

Dr John MacCafferty, in charge of a US military medical team which checked the wounded and prepared them to be flown out, praised local hospitals for the emergency treatment they carried out on Saturday's victims despite a lack of water and electricity in the besieged capital. The men, women and children being ferried out had been operated on and were stable. Sally Becker from Brighton, dubbed "the Angel of Mostar" because of her relief work, left London last night for Split on another mercy mission.

In Sarajevo, the mourning was tinged with bitterness at what was seen as the West's inaction. "Where were you yesterday?," shouted a young Bosnian soldier at Sarajevo's mortuary as a Nato jet soared overhead. "And what are you going to do today?" He supported his girlfriend, who wept for her dead father.

At a football field below Kosevo Hospital, long since turned into a cemetery, eight gravediggers dug more holes into the earth. Huge white armoured personnel carriers marked with red crosses, property of a Nordic batallion, loaded the wounded at the hospital for the risky ride across Sarajevo to the airport.

Among yesterday's diplomatic flurry spurred by Saturday's massacre, Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, the European Union and UN peace negotiators, visited Belgrade and then headed by car to Bosnia to meet Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader. The mediators are due to resume another round of talks in Geneva on Thursday.

President Milosevic of Serbia, eager to placate Western opinion and see UN sanctions lifted, condemned the mortar attack. "The dead and wounded in Sarajevo are not victims of war but victims of war criminals," he said.

World condemnation, page 1

Serbs accuse Bosnians of market blast

BY TIM JUDAH
AND DESSA TREVISAN

SERB forces have denied causing Saturday's market massacre. But all large-scale casualties in Sarajevo are ascribed by the Serbs to Bosnian forces. Their argument is that in an attempt to besmirch the Serbs and provoke international action, the Bosnians murder their own people.

This implies that the Serb shells, which hit Sarajevo daily, are somehow harmless, especially the ones that through fate, if not precise aiming, kill many people.

This time Miroslav Tohalj, the Bosnian Serb Minister of Information, added a further claim: "We Serbs never kill civilians." This disregards all evidence gathered throughout the two years of the Bosnian war of "ethnic cleansing", the killing of thousands of civilians, executions and labour camps.

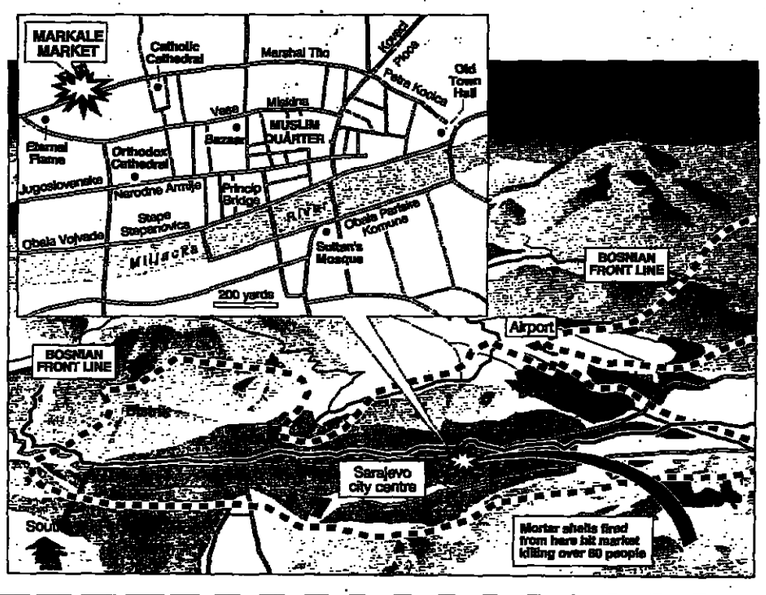
The "own goal" charge first arose after the infamous Vase Miskina street "bread queue" massacre, which killed 22 people on May 27 1992. The Bosnians blamed the Serbs: but the Serbs retorted that this "appalling crime" had been committed by the Bosnians.

General Lewis MacKenzie, the former UN Commander of Sarajevo, was the first to accuse the Bosnians of trying to kill their own people to provoke outside sympathy. But in a recent interview the former general admitted that he did not have any knowledge of what really has been going on in the surrounding hills of Sarajevo.

Last year gunners aimed at the French UN base in the Skenderija part of the city. This was ascribed by the Serbs to the Bosnians, but in the face of overwhelming proof Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, backed down.

Bosnian forces often open fire first, killing Serb civilians. Invariably, the Serb response is overwhelming and bloody. The city is both besieged in the classical sense and blockaded from inside. The Bosnian government rarely allows even the most desperate cases to leave. Its fear is that if people were allowed to leave freely, then perhaps the majority of the population would flee, leaving an empty city ripe for the taking.

Sarajevans standing grimly yesterday at the spot where a mortar shell killed and injured scores of shoppers



Sarajevo reels in bitter grief

Continued from page 1

120mm mortar shell. The entire city seemed to be reeling afterwards. Even though the guns were largely quiet yesterday, most residents stayed at home. The resistance had been dealt a body-blow.

Sixty-eight people had been killed and about 200 wounded. It was the worst slaughter of the siege. Nobody in the marketplace was hurt by "the fighting": instead, they were cut down as they shopped. They were non-violent resisters, and they had been butchered just the same.

City police officers did what they could to clean the remains of residents from the stalls and the pavement. But there was too much to wash it all away.

Pools of blood mixed with water collected in the shrapnel scars in the pavement made by the shell. Dark red blood streaks, as if left by a man-size paintbrush, were overlooked or ignored. After so much gore, a dozen pools of dried blood seemed tame, a permanent part of the square. Nobody bothered with those once most of the mess had been carried away. Or hosed away.

Most of wounded will also be taken away, whisked off in United Nations armoured vehicles and put in American and International Red Cross aircraft for the outside world. For them, help has finally come. As always in Sarajevo, the Western cavalrymen, galloping in to save the day, are a little late.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Balladur fails to appease fishermen

Rennes: French fishermen signalled a possible continuation of the violence that rocked ports in Brittany after dismissing government concessions aimed at alleviating a slump in fish prices.

The measures announced by Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, and Jean Puech, his Fisheries Minister, included a 50 per cent reduction until June 1 in social charges on fishermen's salaries, and minimum price levels on certain kinds of fish. But they ignored one of the main demands: a compensation system to allow boats to claim the difference between the market price for fish and a realistic profitable price.

Only fishermen from Normandy agreed to resume their activities. M Balladur at the weekend condemned continuing violence after a night of demonstrations accidentally sparked a fire that destroyed Brittany's historic parliament building. *(AFP)*

Cairo arrests

Cairo: Egyptian security forces arrested a further 90 Muslim militant suspects north of here, soon after a strong warning from the British Government to tourists and the 3,500 British expatriates resident here that further violence was expected.

Officer killed

Rome: Gunmen killed an Italian officer and wounded a soldier in Somalia in an ambush. Somali warlord General Muhammad Farah Aidid has been accused in a secret UN report of plotting an attack against UN peacekeepers when American forces leave next month. *(Reuter, AFP)*

City found

Mexico City: A pre-Hispanic city in Mexico, lost for more than a thousand years, has been rediscovered northwest of Veracruz by a US archaeologist. It may hold the key to the development of civilisation here, centuries before the rise of the Aztecs. *(Reuter)*

Financial ruin

Bucharest: Tens of thousands of Romanians lost their life savings in the collapse of the Caritas financial pyramid scheme, one of the largest in Eastern Europe with deposits of £500 million. Ion Stoica, the man behind the scheme, has disappeared.

Fumed out

Tokyo: Two *sake* brewers were seriously ill after being overcome by fumes when one fell into a 8ft vat half-full of the rice wine and the other was trapped trying to rescue him. Firemen rescued the pair at the Kannabe brewery in southwest Japan. *(Reuter)*

Western security experts voice fears over Russia

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BERLIN

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and an array of Western politicians, including William Perry, the new American Defence Secretary, yesterday warned Russia that it should not interfere in the affairs of Central Europe.

The speeches, delivered at a weekend security conference in Munich, were supposed to sharpen the rather vague message given to Russia during the Nato summit last month. Russian sovereignty should be respected, said the German leader, but that also implied Moscow respecting the sovereign rights of its neighbours. The Western priority should be to foster "comprehensive security co-operation" between Russia and Ukraine. Herr Kohl said.

There was the constant danger that Moscow would swing towards an "imperial foreign policy", he said. "In such a situation, a concept of spheres of influence or interests cannot be considered." Russia would not be given a right of veto over the policies of Central European states — Nato, in other words, would make up its own mind on the admission of Central Europe to full membership.

Germany is under pressure to abandon, or at least water down, its idea of expanding the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations into a G8 with Russia. Inclusion in this group has become a persistent demand of Russian diplomacy.

The hardening of the line towards Russia reflects new factors in East-West relations. There is a fear that Russia's foreign policy-makers are increasingly stealing clothes from Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the neo-Fascist leader. Another factor is the worry that economic chaos in both Russia and Ukraine will increase their bilateral friction and create a source of permanent instability that could easily spread westwards.

In addition, there is a feeling that the American-inspired *Partnership for Peace* plan sent ambiguous messages to Central Europe and has encouraged Russian ultra-nationalists. Joint Baltic and land manoeuvres with the Poles have been scheduled, and Mr Perry announced that the United States and Russia will hold their first joint military exercises in the Russian Volga region in July.

Manfred Wörner, the Nato Secretary-General, who has undergone intestinal operations in a fight against cancer, cancelled his participation in the conference because of illness, organisers said. No details were available.

☐ Troubles ahead: If the Ukrainian government does not meet Russia's increasingly nationalist demands, war between the two countries is probable, a leading military research institute says in its latest security review.

The Royal United Services Institute said big problems could be expected with the Russian minorities in the Baltic states and Ukraine. President Yeltsin never had tight control over the activities of organisations which supported these Russians, and he is unlikely to obtain such control in the near future even if he wanted to.

"The nuclear issue between Russia and Ukraine is unlikely to be solved before the end of 1994," the institute said. "If anything, the impending collapse of the Ukrainian economy will make matters worse."

William Rees-Mogg, page 16

هكذا من الأصل

Party leaders focus their hopes on South as left looks set for victory

Mudslinging sets tone of Italian polls

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN NAPLES

THE Italian general election campaign starts officially today, but mudslinging, Byzantine horse-trading and deep popular disgust with corrupt politicians have already set the tone.

In Rome, Silvio Berlusconi, the media mogul, yesterday outlined the vague programme of his Forza Italia (Go On, Italy) political clubs at a convention in a small theatre. Urging Italians to answer "a great call to arms" when they vote on March 27, he pledged to defeat the Mafia and to ease the unjust plight of taxpayers by dismantling the welfare state.

Signor Berlusconi, 57, took an early lead in opinion polls last week as the favourite to become Prime Minister. But a poll published by *La Repubblica* yesterday predicted a victory for the left-wing Progressive Alliance based around the former Communist Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), which had 41 per cent against 19 per cent for the centre and 15 per cent for the right, with 25 per cent of voters still undecided.

The poll was based on a survey carried out in Florence, which is regarded widely as a microcosm of the most intelligent and shrewd Italians. Achille Occhetto, the PDS leader, was most favoured to head the next government, followed by Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the Prime Minister, with 24 per cent. Signor Berlusconi had 16 per cent support, and Mario Segni, the former Christian Democrat MP who inspired Italy's electoral reform referendum last April, trailed with 11 per cent.

Political experts agree that this campaign, unlike 1992's which saw the rise of the devolutionist Lombardy League and demise of the Christian Democrat party, will be fought principally in the South, especially Naples, Palermo and Rome. Signor Berlusconi has announced that he intends to stand in Naples or Palermo for the Chamber of Deputies to demonstrate that his popularity is not confined to fellow northeners and that he can defeat the left in one of its main strongholds.

Alessandra Mussolini and Gianfranco Fini, the neo-Fascist Italian Social Movement leaders, launched their campaign in Naples yesterday. Signora Mussolini hopes to better her showing when she was elected as an MP in 1992, and to reverse her defeat in December when she narrowly failed to be elected Mayor of Naples, losing to Antonio Bassolino, the PDS mayor.

In Palermo, Leoluca Orlando, leader of the anti-Mafia party La Rete, knows that defeating Signor Berlusconi will determine the outcome of his ambition to become a European-minded Prime Minister two years hence, when he ends his term as mayor of Sicily's capital.

Commentators caution that the election outcome may be as indecisive as it is unpredictable, and could require another legislative poll within a year to produce a politically homogeneous government.

Mario Segni, leader of the Pact for Italy Party, being kissed by his daughter, Cristina, at the party convention in Rome

Le Pen's bullies run out of steam

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

WITH "post-Fascism" ascendant in Italy and nationalists on the march in the East, the fates should be smiling on Jean-Marie Le Pen and the French far right.

Yesterday, however, weariness, not imminent triumph, hung over the high-tech hall at Porte Marly, on the western Paris outskirts, where M Le Pen's National Front was holding its first congress in four years. Twenty-two years since it was founded, the anti-immigrant party that so recently sent shivers through France's political classes has run out of steam and succumbed to infighting.

The old bluster was there, along with the bully boys and the blazer-wearing cadres who lined the hall, and the cheering was as ecstatic as ever as the burly M Le Pen whipped up the ancestral ambience, a mood perhaps best defined as Wagner meets Joan of Arc. But his stirring words did little to quell the sense that the front has missed the boat.

A national poll on the eve of the congress showed that support has slumped since the peak in 1991. Only 19 per cent of French voters now agree with the anti-immigrant movement's ideas, compared with 32 per cent in 1991: and 73 per cent think M Le Pen and his organisation are a menace to democracy.

The obvious cause for the front's slump is the defeat of the Socialists last March. The new government has stolen M Le Pen's best tunes and modified them for general consumption. Cutting deepest into the front's support has been the crackdown on immigration and crime by Charles Pasqua, the Gaullist Interior Minister. M Pasqua's popular hard line on foreigners has made him the front's biggest enemy.

Indeed, as the front met on Saturday and re-elected M Le Pen to its leadership, several thousand anti-racist demonstrators marched through Paris to protest against the "Pasqua laws" and the disruption they are causing for families.

Also in Paris at the weekend, the forces of the defeated left — ranging from Michel Rocard, the Socialist Party leader, to Communists and ecologists — were meeting to try to forge a common base for reviving their cause in the eyes of the French electorate.

Ahtisaari elected as Finnish President

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ELISABETH Rehn, the Finnish Defence Minister, conceded defeat in the country's presidential election yesterday, saying that Martti Ahtisaari of the opposition Social Democrats had won.

"I admit that there is a winner whose name is Martti Ahtisaari," Ms Rehn said when about 85 per cent of the votes had been counted. With 92.7 per cent of the votes counted, Mr Ahtisaari had gained 53.7 per cent against 46.3 per cent for Ms Rehn, the candidate of the Swedish People's Party, Finnish television reported.

Ms Rehn hugged and congratulated Mr Ahtisaari, a veteran United Nations diplomat and former UN under-Secretary-General with little experience of domestic politics. The winner takes over on March 1.

The main task is foreign policy although the campaign has focused on the country's economic difficulties.

The tight race, in Finland's first direct presidential election, caught the imagination even though both candidates have similar views. Ms Rehn created a sensation in the first round, in which the other nine contenders were eliminated, when she surged from nowhere to take second place. *(Reuter)*

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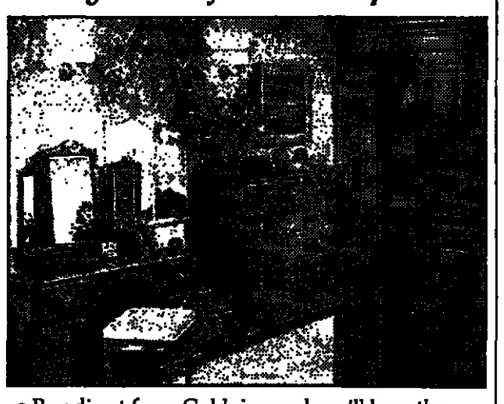

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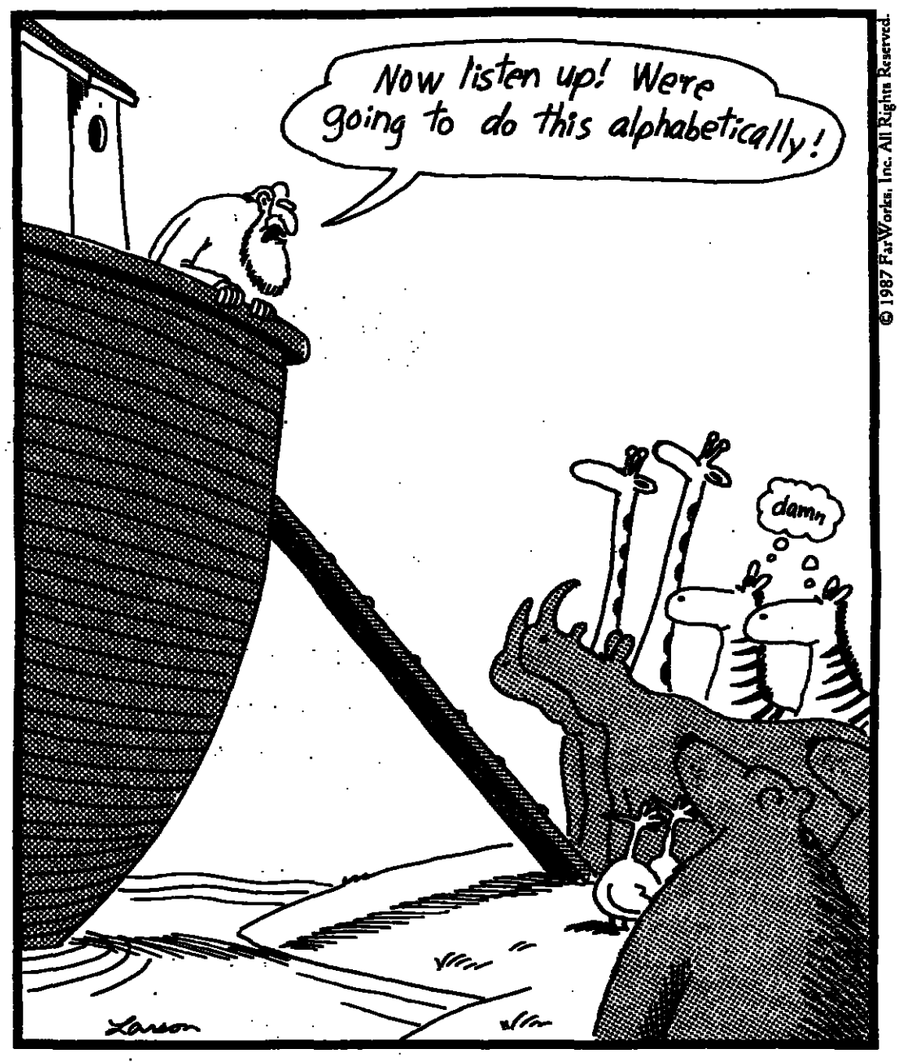

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Democrat loyalty put to test

Clinton faces battle in Congress over social spending cuts

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton will present one of the toughest budgets in years today, causing dismay among liberals in his party, who are outraged by rigorous cuts in social programmes and are promising to fight against some of the proposals.

The budget is an important element in the President's attempt to lead Congress through a year in which he will present some of his most important political programmes, especially health care and welfare reform, and which ends in November with the congressional elections, as many Democrats fear for their seats.

The stringent budget comes at a time of strong economic recovery, but Mr Clinton's authority has come under pressure recently, as support for his health care plan has been slipping away after a number of business organisations announced their opposition to the plan.

The President's standing is also affected by the continued trickle of allegations in the Whitewater land development affair and the possibility of a link to the suicide last year of Vincent Foster, the White House deputy counsel, and a friend of Mr Clinton's. News reports have suggested that the suicide of Mr Foster might have been suspicious and that the White House impeded investigation by the police.

Today, in his budget for the fiscal year starting in October, Mr Clinton will propose to terminate 115 federal programmes altogether to save $3.25 billion (£2.1 billion), and another 200 programmes, which will generate savings of almost $30 billion. The budget also proposes to reduce the federal government's workforce by 100,000.

In a year when the President needs Congress for some of his key initiatives, the Democrats' response to the budget will amount to a test case of the authority which the President wields over his own party and of the readiness with which congressional Democrats are prepared to support unpopular policies during an election year.

The much-leaked budget could have been presented to Congress by George Bush or Ronald Reagan. The saving cuts fade into insignificance compared to the budget's total size of $1,500 billion. Altogether Mr Clinton proposes cuts of about $30 billion from various programmes to pay for some of his political priorities, such as crime prevention and homelessness.

Speaking on NBC's *Meet the Press* programme yesterday, Kweisi Mfume, the leader of the congressional black caucus, issued a warning that some of the proposed budget cuts, especially those concerning heating subsidies for the poor and the elderly, "are close to being non-negotiable items".

There will also be cuts on public housing, which other congressmen are bound to regard as non-negotiable items. There will be cuts on public transport to pay for a programme of road building to satisfy an election pledge by Mr Clinton.

Graham Searjeant, page 38

Washington: The White House announced that a jobs conference to be attended by officials of the Group of Seven industrial countries will be held on March 14-15 in Detroit. Finance, Labour, Industry and Economics Ministers will discuss ways to deal with the global problems of unemployment. *(Reuter)*

Indian troops standing behind barbed wire yards from the Punjab border with Pakistan where 20,000 people gathered to show solidarity with Kashmir's Muslims. The rally was in response to a one-day strike in Pakistan and Kashmir called by Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's Prime Minister, to focus attention on the uprising against Indian rule in Kashmir. Srinagar was deserted, with all businesses closed. In Karachi, police fired teargas at protesters who tried to storm India's consulate. *(Reuter)*

Cubans suffer hardship for Castro's sake

■ Fidel Castro commands a disciplined loyalty in his people. Amid economic hardships, however, his "Socialism or death" slogan may prove too hard to take

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN HAVANA

CUBANS find ways to put up with shortages — *resistir*, as they say. For some, *resistir* has become a motto to show loyalty to President Castro's Socialist revolution, which achieves its 35th anniversary this year. For most, however, it is simply a way of life.

For Félix, 13, who stands outside tourist hotels in Havana begging for dollars, it means cutting holes to allow room for his toes in the annual one pair of canvas shoes that rationing allows him. Marisa Pérez, a retired engineer, was one of at least 100 people prepared to queue for four hours to get her daily bread bun.

The shortage of fuel has become so acute that thousands of people spend their working day in bus queues. Maria, a teacher who lives on the outskirts of Havana spent three days waiting for a *guagua* (bus), then just gave up trying to go to work.

At dinner with a family in the plusher district of Vedado, I found out only afterwards that the entire month's food ration had been served during the meal. The *libreta* (ration book) allows every Cuban four eggs a month. The two I ate in the omelette therefore lay heavy on my digestion. Beans and rice make up the rest of the allowance.

Flor, my hostess, seemed resigned to wait for the next month's ration. "We want to preserve the achievements of the revolution," she said, proudly adding that the Socialist system provides free health and education.

Indoctrination has helped fuel fears that market reforms would demand too high a social cost. According to economists, the US-enforced blockade against Dr Castro's regime also deprives Cuba of its natural trading partner.

President Castro stirs nationalist feelings to preserve the army-like loyalty he commands. But lately, as he juggles to find ways to revive an economy crippled by the loss of subsidies and trading partners in the former Eastern bloc, his calls for "Socialism or death" may be proving too much.

"How much longer can we *resistir?*" demanded one exasperated woman, after a fruitless two-hour wait outside the official rice shop. She reflects a growing discontent against the half-hearted reforms Dr Castro has reluctantly conceded to attract foreign investment.

The reforms allow some degree of self-employment and legalised the use of hard currencies. "But shoemakers can't find leather and hot-dog sellers are having a hard time getting a meat supply. The shortage of raw materials is making things difficult," said Alberto Pérez, the United Nations spokesman. The circulation of the dollar has benefited only a few Cubans receiving remittances from families exiled in Miami.

French and Canadian oil companies have begun drilling for petroleum and tourism is on the increase. But, Western diplomats say, the timid attitude towards reforms has held up a more significant flow of foreign investment. Cuba's $7 billion (£4.7 billion) foreign debt has also stopped loans. A bad sugar harvest have made things worse.

"This situation cannot be sustained, so we'll have to change things further," said Julio Carranza, of the Centre for American Studies. "Create taxes and remove subsidies from the state sector. So far monetary policies have had a superficial effect. Reforms have to restructure production in Cuba."

Privately, some former staunch Communists concede that economic reforms will never work without political changes. Analysts and foreign diplomats agree. But, for now, loyalty to the bearded revolutionary is still too strong.

Leading article, page 17

Castro: loyalty of his people is still strong

Zimbabwe looks into exam fraud

FROM MICHAEL HARTNACK IN HARARE

PENDING investigation of 300 possible cases of leaked papers, Zimbabwe's Education Ministry yesterday continued to withhold the results of Cambridge General Certificate of Education examinations which arrived last week from Britain.

While Michael Portillo, the Treasury Chief Secretary, faced critics in London for praising the integrity of the British examination system, pupils here face an indefinite wait. With two million unemployed, the results are of importance to an estimated 300,000 school leavers, especially in poorly funded rural schools which regularly record 100 per cent failure rates: no pupil gains more than two O levels.

Reports first circulated last November that examination papers were on sale in street markets for £8.

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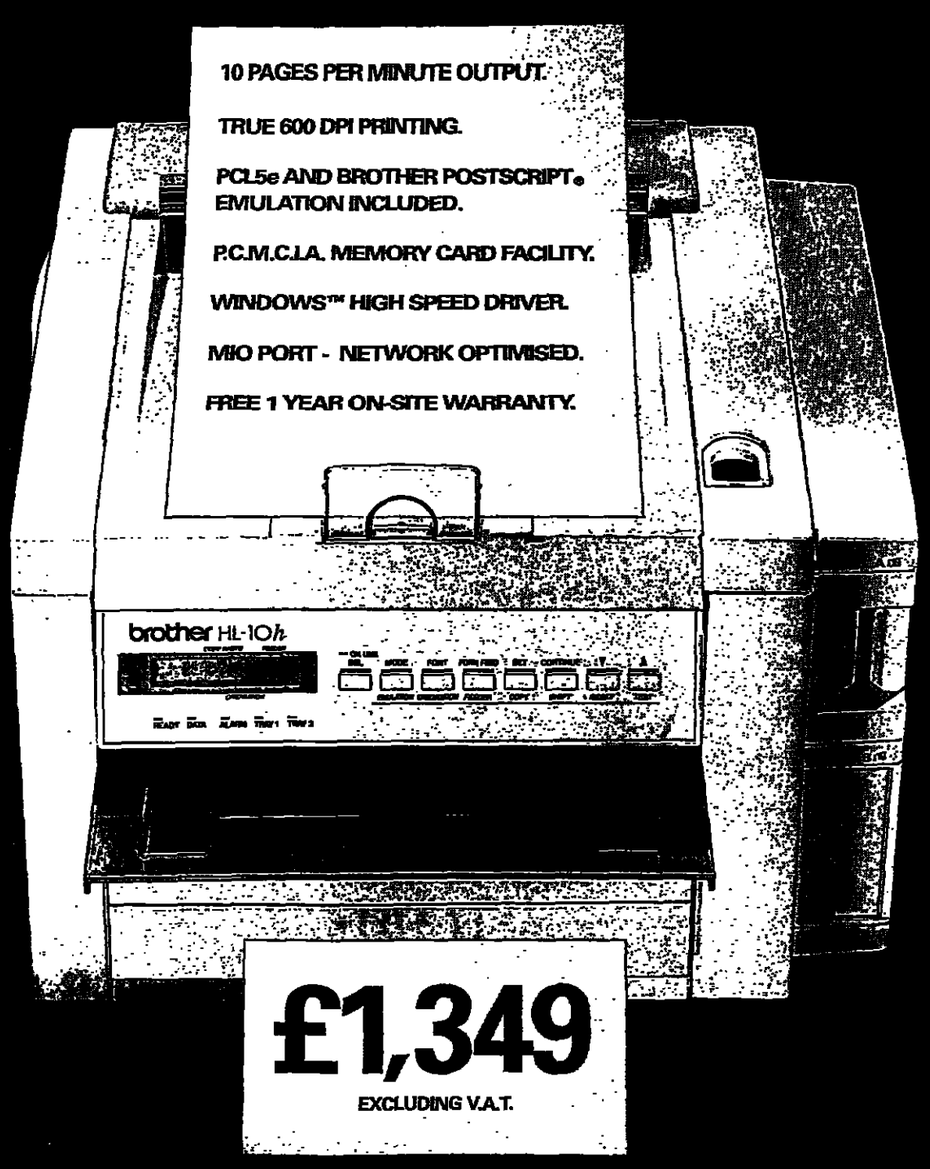

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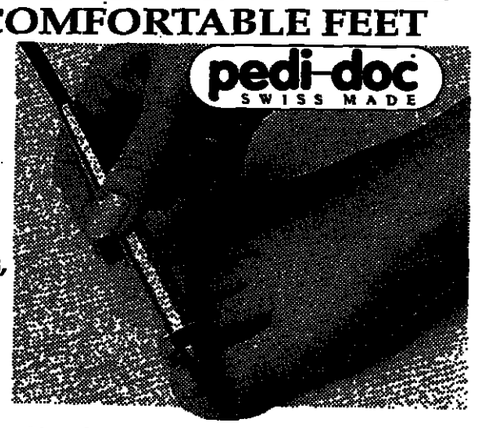

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A Vietnamese woman selling tangerine trees at the flower market in Ho Chi Minh City. Traditionally, the trees are displayed in homes to celebrate Tet, Vietnam's lunar new year, where the festivities have been boosted by the lifting of the 19-year American trade embargo

Mandela threatens retaliation for attacks by far right

By Ray Kennedy in Johannesburg and Eve-Ann Prentice

■ Raids by white rightwingers on ANC offices have increased pressure for the armed wing to strike back. A warning has been given that its violence will not be limited

IF SABOTAGE attacks by right-wing groups on the African National Congress's offices continue, the organisation will order retaliation by Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), its armed wing, Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

Police have failed to make any arrests since a wave of bomb blasts at ANC and trade union offices in the western Transvaal and Orange Free State started at the beginning of the year. Railway lines and electricity pylons have also been attacked.

There were six attacks on ANC and trade union property last week after General Constand Viljoen, leader of the Afrikaner Volksfront, announced that the right was considering the use of "limited violence" to achieve its goal of an independent Afrikaner homeland.

At a campaign rally for the April 27 elections at Tweespruit in the Orange Free State yesterday, Mr Mandela, the ANC's president, said: "It won't be a limited type of violence if we retaliate." He indicated that attitudes within the ANC were hardening and said it was becoming increasingly difficult for the leadership to restrain demands for a firm response.

"We have our own forces, but we are restraining them. We have MK inside and outside the country, and they are better equipped than the ultra-right."

At nearby Thaba Nchu, in that part of the Bophuthatswana homeland enclosed by the Orange Free State, Mr Mandela's motorcade crashed through two roadblocks as armed police tried to stop them entering. At one checkpoint ANC bodyguards drew handguns, but jumped back into their vehicles when the homeland police did not retaliate.

A Bophuthatswana defence force colonel said that the roadblocks were set up to try to stop Mr Mandela because he had not contacted the homeland's authoritities to get clearance for his visit.

According to intelligence sources, the right-wing saboteurs who have mounted attacks on the ANC's offices are adopting the tactics of the IRA, operating alone or in pairs, using home-made explosives as well as dynamite stolen from gold mines. A South African Defence Force officer was quoted as saying: "Our biggest problem is that everything we do to try to combat them is leaked to them in advance."

Eugene Terre'Blanche, leader of the neo-Fascist Afrikaner Resistance Movement, declared at an Afrikaner Volksfront rally at Lichtenburg, western Transvaal, at the weekend: "Mandela, give us a *volkstaat* [Afrikaner state] or you'll have total war."

Viljoen: considering the use of violence

Mr Mandela declined to visit a training camp outside Bloemfontein for the racially integrated National Peacekeeping Force that is meant to be deployed as the election campaign intensifies. It is claimed that there has been a collapse of discipline among the 3,500 volunteers, many from the ANC's armed wing, and that South African army and police instructors are demanding to be posted back to their units.

Mr Mandela said he was confident that its joint command would be able to sort out the problems.

One report yesterday said that about 600 MK members, many of them drunk, had rampaged through the camp last week, chanting "one settler, one bullet" and threatening to kill white soldiers and policemen.

In London today Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, who heads South Africa's independent commission of enquiry into political violence and related matters, is expected to tell the Jewish-based World Union of the Organisation for Educational Resources and Technological Training, that black South Africans needed to see fast "tangible benefits" from the change to democracy, including better education.

"If some of their aspirations are not met within a short time span, there will be trouble. Many millions of South Africans have been deprived because of racial discrimination, and I think they'll be seeking tangible benefits from the change in government pretty quickly. There are many thousands of young angry men and women in South Africa. They have not shared with their elders and leaders in the human rights culture ... their anger has to be assuaged and some of their aspirations met, and that has to be done quickly.

"To do that we need a growing economy. To attract investment we need a peaceful environment. The new government will have to work in all these difficult areas simultaneously and ... the assistance, advice, support and encouragement of the international community will be indispensable."

Peking tightens curbs on religion

From Jonathan Mirsky in Hong Kong

China has issued regulations reinforcing its tight control of all religious activities, especially practices outside the Communist Party's officially approved "patriotic" churches, temples and mosques.

The restrictions, signed by Li Peng, the Prime Minister, prohibit foreigners and overseas Chinese giving funds to believers and from supplying religious materials which "threaten China's social and public order". For example, anything which suggests the supremacy of the Pope over Catholics, or of the Dalai Lama over his followers, is illegal.

Most of the regulations are restatements of past Chinese laws on religion, which in essence criminalise activities outside the party's control. But they point to the state's increasing anxiety over the instability of China's border areas, where Muslims and Tibetans are in perpetual ferment. These fears have been heightened by religious conflicts in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

The regulations conflict with Peking's desire to attract the Pope to China, although it treats as enemies of the people his secretly elevated bishops.

Only two weeks ago when Lloyd Bentsen, the US Treasury Secretary, was in Peking the authorities detained three Catholic priests including Bishop Su of Baoding. The bishop, who had served 15 years in jail, has since been released.

☐ Early warning: Sir Percy Cradock, the former British foreign affairs adviser, said in excerpts from his memoirs, published in Hong Kong's *Sunday Morning Post*, that China had warned Britain as early as 1971 that it expected to take back Hong Kong in 1997, contrary to previous accounts. *(Reuter)*

Letters, page 17

Khartoum offensive brings unity call

From Sam Kiley in Nairobi

TENS of thousands of refugees from a government offensive in the south of Sudan continued to stream into Uganda yesterday as the Sudan People's Liberation Army United called for unity among the divided factions.

The Irish agency Goal, which evacuated the last of its staff from the war-torn areas on Saturday, said that Khartoum had bombed the Entebbe refugee camp, and ground troops were closing in on Nimule, a border town of vital logistical importance tor John Garang, leader of the main body of the SPLA, which split three years ago.

As the United Nations joined in the rush to move staff out of refugee camps which were fast becoming battle grounds, Commander Kwong Danhier, a senior officer in the SPLA United, offered Dr Garang men and arms to fight Khartoum.

"We have made repeated offers to Garang, but so far he has refused us. Khartoum is bombing hard and using heavy artillery. We want to send out men to help our brothers and sisters." Commander Kwong said.

Aid agencies reported that at least 100,000 people, many suffering from malnutrition, measles and dysentery, had three camps in southern Sudan at the heart of the hunger triangle where 250,000 starved to death in 1988.

Khartoum's offensive, which started on Saturday four days after the government pledged to ensure relief operations would be boosted throughout the country, will affect 2.5 million southern Sudanese who may now face starvation because of the disruption to aid operations.

Khartoum's latest push came after gunmen killed 19 people when their sprayed a mosque with machinegun fire in Omdurman on Saturday. Last night it was clear that Khartoum's aim was to sever Dr Garang's links to Uganda and then push east through Kapoeta and Torit, which would deny him access to northern Kenya.

Racist killer jailed for life after 30 years

From Ben Macintyre in New York

THREE decades after Medgar Evers, the black civil rights leader, was shot in the back outside his Mississippi home, the white supremacist who allegedly boasted of pulling the trigger has at last been found guilty of the murder and given a sentence of life imprisonment.

Byron De La Beckwith, now 73, escaped conviction in two previous trials in 1964 when two all-white, all-male juries deadlocked, turning the former fertiliser salesman into a hero among racist whites and an enduring symbol of racial injustice to Mississippi's blacks. On Saturday, after just six hours of deliberation, a jury of eight blacks and four whites reached a unanimous guilty verdict.

"Justice, we got justice," shouted black spectators, as Beckwith stood silent and still in a grey suit, a bemused figure different from the strident, uncompromising segregationist of 30 years ago. His wife, Thelma, wept loudly as the verdict was read out.

Myrlie Evers, widow of the slain civil rights leader, gave a triumphant press conference where she held up a clenched fist in celebration. "It sends a message that it's no longer open season on 'jungle bunnies'," she said, employing one of the many racial epithets favoured by Beckwith.

Medgar Evers was field secretary of the Mississippi National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People when he was murdered on June 12, 1963, as he stepped out of his car carrying a pile of sweatshirts with the legend: "Jim Crow Must Go." Although Beckwith's deer-hunting rifle was used in the killing, he has denied committing the murder.

Much has changed in Mississippi over the last 30 years, but Beckwith's views have not. He has never expressed a word of remorse at Evers's death and made no secret of his delight at the murder. In 1964, potential jurors were asked the stark question: "Do you believe it is a crime to kill a nigger in Mississippi?" Those who hesitated were immediately rejected, but two separate juries still failed to reach verdicts and Beckwith walked free to the cheers and applause of the white spectators who were packed into the courtroom.

Beckwith and his wife on their way to court last week

Evers, buried in Arlington National Cemetery, became a civil rights martyr, but Beckwith was also transformed into a champion by some Southern whites. Ross Barnett, Mississippi's Governor, was one of those who publicly supported the accused man.

Beckwith was a regular celebrity guest at Ku Klux Klan rallies, and even made an unsuccessful bid for the post of lieutenant-governor. During the latest trial six witnesses testified to hearing Beckwith brag about the murder, including a former security guard who said that Beckwith had boasted of "killing that uppity nigger Medgar Evers", and once told a group of Ku Klux Klan leaders: "Killing that nigger didn't cause me any more discomfort than our wives have when they have a baby".

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A family treasure hunt

Mary Ann Sieghart describes the fraught process of finding the ideal nanny

STEPHEN MARKESON

Changing times: Kim Meredith, right, who is leaving her job as nanny to Mary Ann Sieghart's children, with her replacement, Jacqui Coughlan

If divorce, bereavement and moving house are the three most stressful events in life, replacing a treasured nanny must come fourth for many middle-class working parents. This one may be Mary Poppins, but how do we know that the next won't be The Hand that Rocks the Cradle?

Every parent who leaves young children at home with a twentysomething-year-old is going to have intermittent pangs. But the longer a nanny stays, the less frequent is the anxiety until eventually it barely surfaces. The children love her, she is supremely confident with them, and it is almost like leaving them with the other parent.

Now Kim, our current nanny, is about to leave. When the announcement comes, the stomach sinks: not just with worry about finding another jewel, but also about the process itself. Agencies charge between £500 and £1,000 to provide you with a shortlist of suitable replacements. So we end up spending roughly £40 on an ad in *The Lady* and doing the sifting ourselves.

This time there was serious competition, even on my own patch. The economics editor of *The Times*, Anatole Kaletsky, was looking for a nanny, too. We compared notes: his house nicer, our nanny room better, we offered a car, he had three children to my two. His ad was one of the first in *The Lady*, while ours, to my chagrin, was right near the end.

As antediluvian as *The Lady*'s editorial is the process of inserting an ad: no telephone bookings, no fax, no credit cards, ads accompanied by cheques must arrive by first post Wednesday for insertion the following Tuesday.

We have a checklist of questions to ask on the phone. Anyone who smokes, cannot drive, has not looked after children on her own, will not stay for at least a year, or does not speak perfect English is politely given the brush-off. Our current nanny deals with the daytime calls and marks each out of ten. Sevens and above are considered for a shortlist. In the evening, the phone always rings when we've either just got into the bath or sat down to eat, but a good nanny is more important than congealed food or a soaking carpet.

On interview day, my husband and I both take a day off work. In they troop, one at a time, though sometimes two bump into each other in the hall. We take turns to ask questions. He does house rules and pay. I have the embarrassment of asking whether they suffer from PMT and whether they have a boyfriend. It may sound personal, but sharing a house with someone *is* personal. It matters whether they scowl, sulk or snap at you for three days a month or whether a strange man is likely to bump into you in your nightie.

Then we let them talk to our current nanny. That gives them the chance to find out whether we are neurotic, exploitative, tempestuous, uncaring, capricious — all the traits nannies rightly dread in bosses. Kim reassures them, and reports back if they have asked suspicious questions, such as whether they can hold raves when we're away.

You can't get to know someone in three-quarters of an hour: all you can do is rely on intuition. So far, thank goodness, our hunches have proved sound. I have heard so many horror stories from friends: one nanny left in the night while the parents were away; another without warning two hours before her charge's fourth birthday party.

This time, we were so bowled over by Jacqui, our first interviewee, that we offered her the job on the spot and cancelled the other candidates (giving them Anatole's number as consolation prize). Impulsive it might have been, but the chemistry was there, and it would have been tragic if she had accepted another job while we were plodding through the other interviews.

You can't bank on your top choice accepting your offer — someone else might pay more, have better hours or dangle the lure of more glamorous holidays or a BMW to drive. If the answer is yes, references have to be checked thoroughly and there is still the dread that she will change her mind. It happened to us once, the Saturday before the Monday the nanny was due to start.

Each time we have interviewed British and foreign nannies and each time we have ended up with an Antipodean. I don't know what it is about Australia and New Zealand that produces such fun, resourceful and unflappable people. They work hard and party hard, but that's fine as long as the hangover is not too crippling. There is no chippiness: we treat each other as close to equals as it is possible for an employer and employee to be. So far, two of our nannies have been graduates and one a qualified nurse: and all have become friends.

But a combination of restlessness and visa regulations means that they never stay for long. A year is good going; Kim's 15 months is a triumph. I worry about the unsettling effect on my children, though I suppose the wrench is greater if a nanny leaves after many loving years with a family.

This week I shall have to break the news to my two-year-old daughter, Evie, that her best friend is leaving. It won't be the last time an adult she loves lets her down, but that does not make it any the less painful. All we can do is hope that Jacqui, Kim's replacement, will win her over, and that peace of mind will return — until the next time.

Penalties of a grudge match

Some of us are born to forgive and forget — and some never can

Maurice Bland is back in jail this morning, and will not find his surroundings unfamiliar. Mr Bland, once a farm labourer, has already served 23 years for setting fire to his employer's barn. He became a *cause célèbre* in his native county of Yorkshire, and there were spirited campaigns to get him out.

Last October, he was let out on day release to go shopping. Whereon he acquired some matches, took a bus to Harrogate, hitch-hiked to Littlethorpe and set fire to the same barn again.

In jail Mr Bland — described as not mentally ill, only "a bit simple" — had turned from a young man to a middle-aged one. Outside, governments came and went, hemlines and currencies rose and fell, wars were waged and peaces made; inside, Mr Bland continued to nurse the complicated grudge which first made him torch the barn. And back he went with the matches; and if they ever let him out again, he says, "I'll keep doing it, I will". His adversary is not even the same man, but his son.

LIBBY PURVES

This awesome tale came out of Sheffield Crown Court as the weekend began, and I have not been able to shake it from my mind. No crazed ministerial xenophobia nor nude Palace paraglider has been able to displace the vision of Mr Bland glowering his life away in the slammer.

The story will no doubt be manna for penal cynics, rather like Evelyn Waugh's story *Mr Loveyjoy's Little Outing*. Remember? Do-gooders, so despised by Mr Waugh, get a sweet old man released from mental hospital after a lifetime; he trots off saying "I've promised myself a little treat", and — in a carbon copy of his ancient offence — knocks a nurse off her bicycle and strangles her. Ha, ha, told you so. String 'em up, it's the only language they understand.

But the story rings more universal bells than that: it is about that mysterious capacity in some humans to preserve unwavering, unfading grievances. Most grudge-bearers never settle the old score, preferring to nurse it; but they are kin with Mr Bland, and kin with centuries of fictional monsters who, from Shylock onwards, "feed fat the ancient grudge they bear".

Yorkshire, of course, is famous for this trait. They say that when you do a Yorkshireman a wrong he puts a stone in his pocket, and after seven years he turns it, then leaves it another seven, turns it again, and finally throws it at you.

Having been married to a Yorkshireman for 14 years last week, I cannot entirely refute this monstrous slur. Sterling characters though his countrymen and women are, they do seem to have a remarkable capacity for not forgetting that they were never offered a slice of Christmas cake in 1983, nor that their mince pie was a shade stale in 1985. My own spouse, despite my wet southern attempts to mellow him, is capable of narrowing his eyes at the very mention of professional adversaries he has not dealt with for a decade. If they were bastards then, he reasons, they are bastards now.

It is in the temperament: you either have it or you don't. I know, because I lack it: I do not so much forgive as forget. There was a man once who monstrously insulted me, and I him; we shrieked at one another in the late lamented *Listener*, and he cut me dead at a book launch.

Two years later we met at a party, and stared at one another with momentary puzzlement. "Don't we hate each other, or something?" he asked. And neither of us could for the life of us remember why. So we had a drink. Put it down to a crowded life, or to a British horror of confrontation; but it keeps happening.

If you are avoiding me because we once quarrelled, feel free to call round. I have forgotten why the stone is in my pocket at all. Perhaps if you had crippled or bereaved me it would be different: but that is an inescapable memory, and not the same talent as true grudge-bearers show. Actually, I am not without a certain awed admiration for them: someone once said that "to have a grievance is to have a purpose in life". We chronic forgetters may seem mellow and balanced. Really, I suspect, we are just dilettantes at life.

Still, we stay out of trouble. This time, the judge says, life means life for Mr Bland. One cannot be entirely sorry.

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THE TIMES

AT 30P IT'S A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR A GREAT NEWSPAPER

When comrades break ranks

How do ex-soldiers cope in civvy street?

THE only life that Kevin Cole knew was one under orders. He left school at 16, joined the army and by 34 he was a sergeant in the Royal Corps of Transport. He was earning £16,000 and had travelled all over the world, but he was bored with his life.

"I wanted a challenge. I wanted to take the world by the toes and take a new life completely," he says.

There was another pressing reason for leaving the forces. His wife had left him a year earlier and he was anxious to end his nomadic soldier's life, for the sake of his children, James, 12, and Emma, 11. "I wanted to spend more time with them, to live in my own house, to have the stability that's missing in the army."

The armed forces are going through their most troubled times for decades. Regiments are merging, naval dockyards are being closed and between 1993 and 1995 the armed forces will lose nearly 30,000 personnel. Everywhere, officers and men are keeping their heads down, dreading the summons for a "chat" and the accompanying buff envelope. Many, however, demoralised by rigid promotion structures and lack of responsibility, are deciding, despite an uncertain jobs market, to jump before they are pushed. In 1993 the army lost 8,482 people, 91 per cent of them voluntary redundancies.

For Mr Cole the leap has been a success. He now runs a service station in his home town of Bideford, north Devon, and is touchingly happy. "Now I do things because I want to, not because anyone tells me," he says. "Before this I was bored. My life was all planned out for the next seven years."

What Mr Cole loves about his new life is what other former members of the forces might hate. "No one knocks on my door in the morning and gets me organised. Nobody says I think it's time you went on a course now. I am all alone."

The success has been qualified, however. It took Mr Cole nearly a year to find the job, and along the way he received a string of rejections without interview from employers who seemed to want nothing to do with forces personnel. "Nobody would give me a chance," he says. "They seemed to think I was too old, that my experience counted for nothing."

Lois Burgoo: "I was bored"

Corporal Lois Burgoo agrees. He is 29 and has been unable to find regular employment since taking voluntary redundancy last October from the 3rd Battalion, Parachute Regiment. "People think you are like a robot, that you can't do anything without being told."

Now Mr Burgoo is working part-time as a personal fitness trainer, but he is anxious to find more secure work, for the sake of his former wife and two small children. "I miss the comradeship of the forces, knowing you can walk into work feeling down and the others can make you just forget about it."

In *Spent Forces*, a BBC *40 Minutes* documentary tomorrow night, Mr Burgoo's former wife, Susan, claims her husband was bullied in the army, because he is black. "He was picked on constantly, he was fined every week for something he didn't do," she says. He is dismissive of this: "You've just got to get on with things, haven't you?", but there is a note of relief in his voice when he says he has no regrets about his choice. "Nobody's going to mess me around any more."

Discontent is not consigned to the lower ranks. Major Charles Blackmore, 36, chose to leave the Royal Green Jackets, after a spell in Whitehall briefing officers on Options for Change. "I was in a position to witness the decisions about the army and the pyramid was shrinking," he says. "I decided that I had probably had the best of my career in the field and from now on it would be desk work only. But if I stayed any longer I would be trapped, by knowing they would pay the children's school fees."

HE LEFT the forces in July and managed to fit in a record-breaking charity 780-mile expedition across the Taklamkan Desert, in north-east China, before starting work a month ago as the PA to the chief executive of a merchant bank. "There are sure to be things I will miss, but the choice I made was like leaving a good party early. If you stay too long you spoil a good time."

Mr Blackmore fears that more officers will follow him. "There are more opportunities outside the army. I was disappointed by the political decisions being made. I was tired of seeing so many parts of the army overworked. The pressures put on us are becoming unbearable and there will be a problem retaining, let alone recruiting, good officers."

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

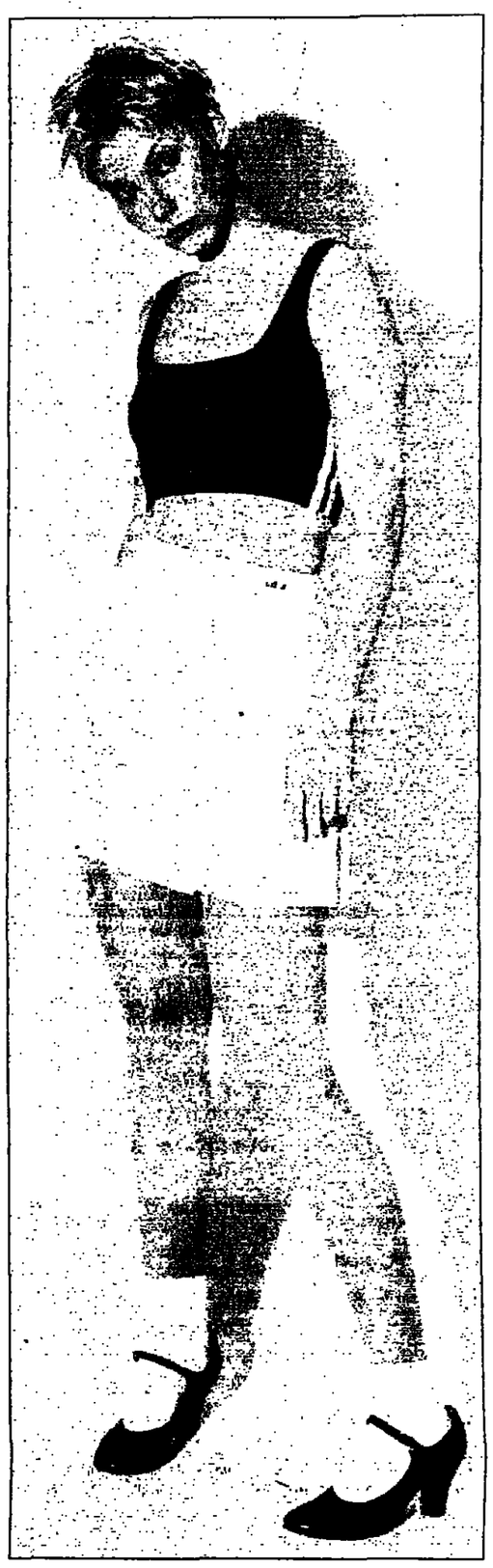
● Spent Forces, *BBC2, Tuesday, 9.50pm.*

هكذا من الأصل

Sportswear has a new glamour, fit to be seen out of the gym. **Iain R. Webb** puts the best through its paces

Black and white stripe chiffon trousers; white cropped vest, Katharine Hamnett, to order, 20 Sloane Street, London SW1 (071-354 4400). Maroon and white stripe zip top (as part of suit), £24, John Lewis branches nationwide. Trainers, £49.99, Puma, from Office shoes (071-243 0086)

Spring into action



Above: Maroon and white stripe cropped top, £65, Future Ozbek, Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1. White pleated gym skirt, £8.95, John Lewis, as before. Socks, £1.99, Sock Shop, branches nationwide. Black shoes, £39.95, Gamba, 3 Garrick Street, London WC2

Above centre: Black and white stripe dress, £430, Yves Saint Laurent, Rive Gauche, 137 New Bond Street, London W1; 33 Sloane Street, London SW1. White socks, as before. Red and white shoes, £210, Yves Saint Laurent, as before

Photographs by IAIN R. WEBB
Make-up: Stephanie Jenkins
Hair: Gari Gianasi for Geo Phountzi

Candace Bahouth's *Illuminated Manuscript* for

EHRMAN TAPESTRY

The *Illuminated Manuscript* is among the many wonderful designs in Candace Bahouth's new book *Mediæval Needlepoint*. The fine, intertwining pattern of green and yellow leaves with powder and sapphire blue flowers is set on a soft, neutral buff-coloured background. The richly patterned grass green border is overlaid with a profusion of gilded leaves and scrolls and is scattered with jewel-like flowers in vermillions, amethyst, lavenders and azure blue. The soft blend of colours would fit in well anywhere.

Measuring 16" x 15" the design is printed in full colour on 10 holes to the inch canvas. 100% pure new wool from the Appleton tapestry range is used and the design can be worked in either half-cross or tent stitch. The kit costs £36.50 including postage and packing and comes complete with wool, canvas, needle and instructions. When ordering use FREEPOST - no stamp needed.

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Fashion
IAIN R. WEBB

Last November, during New York fashion week, Suzy Menkes, the fashion editor of the *International Herald Tribune*, stepped out one day wearing a pair of navy and white sneakers. Nothing special, yet her contemporaries looked more than twice. For Menkes, renowned for her love of well-heeled couture, to step out in a pair of canvas and rubber pumps where usually suede, grosgrain or softest leather versions trod, was something which was not going to go unnoticed. In the world of fashion, having Menkes endorse a trend is rather akin to getting a royal warrant from the Queen.

A day or so later, sports apparel received yet another seal of approval when the designer Ralph Lauren opened his Polo Sport store on Madison Avenue, a shop stocked from floor to ceiling (literally) with everything and anything associated with leisure. The interior is as sleek, clean and dynamic as the look itself. Lauren even has his own line of baseballs, tennis balls and footballs, and his designer frisbee sells for £25.

Every now and again the fashion world plays around with sportswear. Who hasn't learnt to live with fitness fads? Who wasn't overjoyed with the explosion of Lycra into mainstream fashion? But right now, it's never looked better.

Whereas previously sportswear has appeared to be the antithesis of all things glamorous, now the definitions merge. Designers, no doubt inspired by the sleek-looking sneakers (Adidas Gazelles and Puma Suedes) gracing the feet of the avant-garde over the past two seasons, shifted into top gear, filling the runways with bright, graphic-looking outfits. This time around the emphasis was on glamour.

This season, running vests and athletic shirts come in shiny stretch satin, tracksuits are cut in chiffon, and little pleated skirts and shorts shimmy in sumptuous silk. The prime players are naturally the Americans, who have long been obsessed with the health and fitness craze: Norma Kamali, Donna Karan, Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, the same designers who in the 1970s danced the night away at the New York discotheque Studio 54, the club where waiters wore only running shorts and training shoes.

In fashion, what comes around, goes around. Even the younger designers, not old enough to have hustled in their high-tops, are enamoured with the exercise routine. Anna Sui cuts cropped tops and mini-skirts, banded in black and white stripes, in metallic satin, while Isaac Mizrahi mixes multi-coloured referee's shirts with plain polo shirts. British designers Rifat Ozbek and Katharine Hamnett add zippy white stripes to simple separates. Hamnett's chiffon tracksuit trousers look the most extreme, but this sheer statement is simply the quintessential equation for sensational summer evening-wear, 1994 style: provocative yet relaxed.

A new label based in New York, appropriately called Label, is selling high wedge training shoes and stretchy tube dresses which bear the distinctive "Adidas"-style stripe. Madonna is a fan.

In keeping with the active mood, make-up and hair become more casual and carefree—shiny, fresh, and ever so slightly dishevelled.

The sports departments of large stores can turn up useful pieces which give the desired effect. Anything with a stripe, anything in bold primary colours, especially red. Mix the real thing with the designer versions, and if the high price tags make you feel unwell, just remember the keep-fit mantra: no pain, no gain.

Red polo shirt, approx £24.99, Esprit (from March) (071-245 9139). Red sprint shorts, £6.50, John Lewis, as before

Anna Sui (top) and DKNY show the dynamic look

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Matthew Parris

■ There is no crisis of identity in England, only an unspoken nationalism that may be about to roar

Watching a rather glamorous Robinson Crusoe last Saturday as she held the hand of an even prettier Polly Perkins and sang "Dream, dream, dream" to a capacity audience at the Youlgreave village hall in Derbyshire, amid painted scenery inspired by *South Pacific* and to the accompaniment of Ann on the drums, Jan on the electric keyboard and her mother on the piano, one felt one knew without needing to be told on the *Times* letters page what it was to be British.

This, perhaps the last pantomime of the season, and in the opinion of all of us around unquestionably the best, could surely not be appreciated by any other race in the world. It was so wonderfully, so ineffably, English: and ... oh dear. There we go again. English.

I have been following the correspondence on the British sense of identity for weeks now in the columns opposite. I have not been alone in noticing two things. The first is that there have been hardly any letters from Scotland or Wales: the second is the way correspondents from England keep slipping into writing about an *English* sense of identity.

That almost all the letters come from south of the border may be less significant than it seems. The bias, indeed, is not just to this side of Hadrian's Wall, but to this side of Watford. That may say more about patterns of readership of a Fleet Street broadsheet than it does about interest in the subject of Britishness. After all, nobody can deny that "up north" (an explanatory "of England" can be assumed whenever this phrase is used, and has to be because nobody bothers to make it explicit — I suppose up north is down south in Edinburgh) they feel as English as the rest of ... oops. "Us" dies on my lips.

No, a sense of Britishness is not confined to the Home Counties, even if more readers write from there. Much more significant, I think, has been the astonishing way in which so many correspondents are starting their letters on the subject of "a British sense of identity" and, finding themselves unable to keep up the pretence for more than a paragraph or two, reverting to "English" before signing off.

Take Saturday's letters page as the most recent example. There are five letters beneath the heading "Confusion and conspiracy over British sense of identity". Four of them come from Belgravia, Cambridge, Buckinghamshire and Kent. Of these four the first regrets that so little airtime is devoted by our broadcast media to history.

I agree. But "Britain" only began in 1707. The history of the British Isles before the 18th century is not about Britishness, and learning it would not reinforce any sense of British identity. It is about Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland: different countries, different races, often hostile towards one another.

The second letter observes that British society is always changing, goes on (interestingly) to identify a thread of non-deference running through British attitudes, then remarks, "No English forelock has ever been touched with any deep sense of conviction". I do not dispute that wording: "British forelock" just doesn't sound quite right.

The third letter is from a former Conservative MP who is also a knight. He calls for a rediscovery of the cohesion and social stability we enjoyed before the Second World War. He quotes G.K. Chesterton: "But we are the people of England, and we have not spoken yet."

> 'Writers are unable to keep up the pretence for more than a paragraph or two, reverting to "English" before signing off'

The last of our four correspondents regrets that our sense of British cultural identity has been diluted and distracted by the entrance of alien cultures and religions, and by a multiculturalism which (the writer says) rejects all things "Anglo-Saxon".

Four out of the five letters on that page, then, slip within seconds into an unconscious identification of Britishness with Englishness. I quote them not to agree or disagree (mostly I agree). Nor, even, do I quote them as evidence for the proposition that Englishness is a dominant strand in Britishness. That, I think, is indisputable. I quote them as evidence that the association we English make between our Englishness and our nationhood is so complete, so deep and so unquestioned that we do not even notice it. If we noticed it we would take more care to conceal it, for it is plainly offensive to other Britons.

The trait is absolutely characteristic of what Ann Leslie has called the mentality of "the boss nation". It explains why, far from having been overtaken or destroyed, English nationalism is actually the most potent of the four nationalisms found on our island.

So potent is it that we have the confidence to forget it. So potent is it that it has unwittingly assumed itself to embrace or replace other nationalisms, and speak for all four.

Chesterton's poem, quoted by the MP, was called "The Secret People". I have a hunch that their secret nationalism will resurface powerfully in the century ahead.

The West has no defence strategy for a world grown more dangerous since the Cold War

Disarming while anarchy spreads

William Rees-Mogg

There is no position more embarrassing than that of asserting one's own importance, of being the person in the crowd who has to say, "Don't forget me, I'm more important than you think". Yet Britain does have to say something like that to Washington. Whatever its other merits, President Clinton's decision to give a visa to Gerry Adams has been taken in Britain as an indication that we do not matter as an ally of the United States. This is rather dangerous for Britain and rather damaging to the United States as well.

The United States is still the greatest nation in the world in all terms of power, in economic strength, in defence, in international connections. All lesser powers have to be ranked differently when judged by different measures. If one takes the Group of Seven countries, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy and Japan, the United States ranks first on each possible measurement. In industrial capacity, Japan is second, Germany is third, France is fourth, and Britain and Italy are about equal fifth. In terms of banking and finance, Japan again comes second, but Britain comes third, with Germany in fourth place and France in fifth.

In terms of international connection, Britain, with links to a quarter of the world through the Commonwealth, arguably comes second, though claims could be made for Germany, through the EC, or indeed for Japan because of financial strength. In terms of defence, Britain moves up to a clear second place. The G7 countries are not the whole world, though they do account for about half the world economy. China, Russia and India are great powers by their geography and population; with the United States they form a Group of Four to which Britain plainly does not belong. But of course the four are competitors rather than allies.

With the end of the Cold War, a superficial analysis became fashionable which argued that defence was no longer important, and that weight in alliances should be assessed primarily in terms of economic strength. An even cruder version of this doctrine looked simply at the strength in manufacturing, and overlooked the international importance of finance. This fashion influenced the Washington policy-makers; one aspect of the peace dividend was that a defence ally with financial strength, such as Britain, could be downgraded against an economic ally with small defence and medium financial weight, such as Germany. In Britain we could hardly complain, as we had also accepted that the break-up of the Soviet Union would permit a big reduction in our defence commitments. In what seemed an increasingly safe world, the defence card was certainly not the ace of trumps.

This had disadvantages for the United States as well. There has always been some anti-American jealousy in Europe and Japan. So long as Western Europe and Japan had every reason to fear the Soviet Union, they were very conscious of dependence on American defence power. The end of the Cold War weakened the diplomatic position of the United States, even though it would remove the only other superpower. Fear of the Soviet Union proved to have been an important diplomatic asset for American policy.

The Soviet Empire was indeed one of the most frightening the world has seen and one of the ugliest. Naturally we all rejoiced when it fell apart. Yet we forgot the historic rule that empires exist only because they fill a need. They come into existence because of hostilities among the tribes and nations who become their subject people. That is true of the Chinese Empire, the oldest of all, of Alexander the Great's empire, of the Roman Empire, of the Holy Roman Empire, of the Ottoman Empire, of the British Empire, of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and of the empires of Spain and Portugal in South America. The creation of an empire is never a historical accident or merely an expression of innate aggression — though that exists — but the filling of a vacuum of power caused by local disputes. We failed to understand that the Russian Empire had come into existence only because of conflicts between the peoples of the region. These conflicts could be expected to resurface once the power of the Soviet Empire was destroyed. It was destroyed, and they sprang back to life, as grass will spring up when a layer of concrete is removed.

In the 20th century, almost all the empires have gone, but the Soviet Empire was among the longest lasting, partly because it was a land empire, dominating adjoining states, and partly because it was still needed, in a way the British Empire in India proved not to be. Now that the world is free of its empires, it has to deal afresh with the problems they came into existence to solve.

Yugoslavia is at present the most terrible example. It was on the fault-line between three great empires, the Ottoman, the Austro-Hungarian and the Russian. All three have disappeared: there is no one now left to stop the murderous tribes killing one another. Sarajevo was the spark that started the First World War; we can now see that was no accident. Bosnia is the San Andreas fault of Central Europe. Last Saturday's massacre in Sarajevo makes an attempt at military intervention much more likely.

Potentially even more dangerous is the conflict in Ukraine. Recent visitors to Russia have been astonished by the violence of feeling against the Ukrainians; that hostility is fully reciprocated. Western Ukraine has strong European traditions; but consider the complications of Lwów. That is its Polish and Soviet name; it was called Lemberg when it was the capital of the Austrian province of Galicia before 1918. Apart from its 20th-century history, it was besieged by the Lithuanians in 1350, by the Wallachians in 1498, by the Turks in 1524 and 1672, by the Cossacks in 1648 and 1655, was captured by Charles XII of Sweden in 1704, and by the first partition of Poland was given to Austria in 1772. It revolted unsuccessfully in 1848. In the 20th century it had been Austrian, Polish, Soviet, German-occupied, Soviet again and is now Ukrainian.

More than ten million Russians live in eastern Ukraine, and two million more in Crimea. Ukraine as a whole is bankrupt, and is still — which fortunately Serbia is not — armed with nuclear weapons. President Kravchuk has no idea how to run a modern economy; inflation has reached 80 per cent a month, a revolutionary level.

The post-imperial world is more anarchic and perhaps even more dangerous than the imperial world used to be. The smaller powers are rearming rapidly; it is only the major powers who are still disarming after the end of the Cold War. That will probably prove to be a short-term phase. There is likely to be a return to alliances which are chiefly concerned with security; Nato has been downgraded relative to the European Community, but that will probably reverse itself, as both Europe and America become more aware of the complexity and danger of the post-imperial world.

In the meantime we have no strategy. The Cold War provided a world discipline. Everyone knew where the spheres of influence had been drawn; nations knew how far they could go. Now there is no sense of defined boundaries either of geography or of action; the Serbs have shown that it is possible, so far, to defy the world without intolerable consequences — though the Serbian economy, like the Ukrainian, is an inflationary nightmare. The United States is the only power which could develop a new strategy. So far there has been no sign that President Clinton's Administration has either the will or the capacity to do so.

Between a rebuff and a rout

Peter Riddell on John Major's chances in two difficult elections

They *are* terrible! Indeed far worse than anyone contemplated," Barbara Castle wrote in her diary for May 10, 1968, about Labour's rout in the local elections. The party lost strongholds like Islington and Hackney in a tide which swept the 25-year-old John Major on to Lambeth council. Baroness Castle added: "The whole country seems to have gone berserk, and to cap it all Cecil King has dedicated his life and his newspapers to getting rid of Harold [Wilson]." Within three weeks the chairman of the *Daily Mirror* had been ousted by his board. Lord Wilson survived to retire eight years later.

Politics is different now. The local elections on May 5 and the European parliament elections five weeks later are widely being treated as a referendum on Mr Major: if the Tories do disastrously, then he will go. Politics, however, seldom works in such a predictable way: prime ministers have been overthrown far more often in conversation and in columns than in practice. But however determined Mr Major is to stay in office, he cannot ignore the elections. A senior adviser has admitted that the Government's strategy is focused on June 9 and works back from there.

The Tories undoubtedly face bad results. It is impossible to make precise forecasts, and the local elections may present a confused picture. Comparison will be with 1990, when the Tories did very badly in the cities and big towns outside London but gained in the capital, especially in Wandsworth and Westminster, as Kenneth Baker, then Tory chairman, memorably emphasised to put a favourable gloss on the outcome. Labour will do very well this year if it wins many further seats outside London, but it should gain a number of outer London boroughs.

The outcome in May could create expectations that the European elections will be "make or break". The Tories now hold 32 European seats, against 45 for Labour and none for the Liberal Democrats. But there are now six more seats (as part of a deal to reflect the inclusion of the old East Germany), and boundaries have been redrawn, creating more marginals. Under the first-past-the-post system, the existence of very large European constituencies exaggerates the impact of any shift of votes. So there would be a lopsided result in seats, out of proportion to the distribution of votes.

The Times reported last month on a MORI analysis of voting intentions for the final quarter of 1993, and it is very similar now. Assuming a uniform national swing since the 1992 election, the Tories would win 17 seats, Labour 63 and the Liberal Democrats three. But if voting intentions are analysed on a regional, rather than a national, basis, the Liberal Democrats could win 11 seats in an arc stretching up from the far South West along the south coast and up through Wiltshire. The Tories might hold just 13 seats. Moreover, these projections are highly sensitive to small changes in voting shares. At current ratings, a two-point movement of votes between the Tories and Liberal Democrats in the South East could shift seven Euro-seats.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Labour is likely to be the clear national winner. But more worrying to Tory MPs in the South would be Liberal Democrat victories on anything like this scale. What can Mr Major do to avoid that?

The public regards Mr Major and his adminstration as incompetent, weak and lacking direction. He needs to demonstrate leadership. But he has few options. Nothing can limit the adverse impact of April's big tax increases. The economy is recovering and unemployment is falling, but it will take time to convince voters of these trends. There are no magic solutions. An early Cabinet reshuffle would smack of panic and there are no rising stars around whose promotion would transform the Tories' image. Equally, new initiatives or slogans could backfire, as back to basics has.

Mr Major and his advisers have concluded that the best course is to clear the decks of internal problems and to fight back aggressively. Last week this took the form not just of his curt dismissal of the right-wing 92 group's call for a reshuffle and his combative appeal for unity to Tory MPs, but also the attempts to defuse the rows over the police Bill, over student unions and over the reorganisation of local councils. These moves may steady morale in the short term. But the doubts and the muttering will continue, and the party's divisions over Europe could always resurface.

Party strategists hope that active campaigning by Mr Major and the highlighting of differences with Labour over tax, spending and interference by Brussels will rally supporters and raise turnout. But there are risks in raising the stakes. This will make the elections even more important, despite probable attempts to lower expectations by warning of likely big losses. There is obviously a point at which defeat turns into disaster — for instance, if the Liberal Democrats have almost as many seats or votes as the Tories. This could create panic among backbenchers and an excitable press, and Mr Major might conclude that he had no choice but to resign.

However, short of a wipe-out like the Canadian Conservatives had last year, Mr Major's position is stronger than it appears. Most Tory MPs still believe that changing the leadership again would not solve their problems, but would reinforce the impression of a party clinging on to office. Mr Major has been helped by the absence of agreement on a successor, the recent difficulties of Kenneth Clarke over taxes and the latest, self-inflicted, check to Michael Portillo's previously inexorable rise. Many ministers are also determined that Mr Major will not be pushed out by the press and a few disaffected MPs.

The bookies are not exactly bullish about Mr Major's prospects. They may, not for the first time, be underrating him.

DIARY

Happy days

MUTED grumblings within Tory ranks against Sir Norman Fowler became a cacophony last month. Blaming the chairman for all the ills befalling the party is a familiar sport. But suddenly a new Fowler is bouncing around Westminster.

His old jokey relationship with John Major has been revived after months of infrequent meetings and a distinctly chilly air. And Fowler is suddenly cropping up everywhere. He personally briefed journalists on Major's "get tough" talk to last Thursday's backbench 1922 Committee: there was Fowler marching down the corridors, Fowler in the tearoom, Fowler at Edwina Currie's book launch, Fowler on television. At Saturday's Young Tories jamboree in Southport, Fowler's sparky speech even eclipsed that of the man who's after his job — one Jeffrey Archer.

Brushing away gloomy predictions for the local and European elections with a jaunty air, Fowler on the way out seems to have given way to Fowler on a high. "When he goes, he's determined to leave on a rising note," concludes one senior aide. "You're all trying to write him off too soon," warns another.

Fowler's secret smile appears to have more to do with his own future. Some colleagues believe he has landed a highly lucrative job to be ready for when he steps down. But the smart money is on a return to a senior Cabinet post this summer. Or maybe he's just looking forward to spending more time with his family — again.

Dunhuntin

THE luck of the Quorn, once the most prestigious hunt in Britain, shows no sign of improving. At season's end, that doyen of the hunting field, Captain Fred Barker, hangs up his horn for the last time.

Barker, master of the Quorn from 1972 to 1985, was brought back in 1991 to clean up the hunt when its four masters were barred from hunting after a saboteur's video revealed a fox being dug out of its earth and fed to hounds. The Prince of Wales defected to the Meynell. Then subscriptions slumped away, thanks to Lloyd's losses and the recession.

Visiting his local Leicestershire farmers, Barker said: "Yes, I'm retiring as joint master. But I must carry on hunting. I hope to hunt up here. Although it is always rather difficult when old masters go out — they can turn out to be rather troublesome."

Happily, other masters are lining up to take over the captain's horses — "my friends", as he calls them. And he's delighted with Charnwood district council's vote last week to allow hunting on its land. Brian Toon of the MFH Association said: "He is one of the old school — something of a disciplinarian. The Quorn ought to be very grateful to him for the job he did."

Even the League Against Cruel Sports concedes that the master is "a man of great principle".

● *Dithering at the United Nations over Bosnia policy, whether to back air strikes or not, seems set to become a classic case study in decision-making — or rather the lack of it. On hearing the BBC's Jon Leyne lambasting their "pass the parcel" diplomacy in Bosnia, on the World Service, UN nigwigs promptly fired off a request for a recording to incorporate into a UN seminar on decision-making. Programme producer Mike Popham says: "We have no idea whether they are using it as an example of bad practice or state-of-the-art."*

Jenned up

IS NOTHING sacred? After the poor Bash Street Kids suffered the modernisers' touch, comes news that even Jennings — the bastion of 1950s British boyhood — is not safe. In Macmillan's reprints this autumn, and in a new book, *That's Jennings*, from the pen of veteran author Anthony Buckeridge, certain alterations have been ordered.

Gone are those splendid Fifties phrases such as "jolly decent". In their place will be "really great", although Buckeridge sighs "that will probably be outdated soon".

As modern-day schoolboys might regard £sd as an opiate, money will be decimalised. "There was no point having two-and-six bus fares any more," says the sprightly octogenarian. "I've allowed for inflation — which meant multiplying everything by about five."

What a jolly poor show.

Sound advice

ELECTION to the 1922 Committee of Tory backbenchers has clearly gone to the head of that representative of the common people, David Evans.

Puffed up with indignation, Evans rounded on fellow right-wing MP Sir George Gardiner and his 92 group (henceforth known as the 92-second group) for daring to offer advice to John Major. "What right had Sir George to tell the Prime Minister who should be in his Cabinet!" he erupted.

Quite right. So which MP was offering advice to Major last month? Who sneered at Major's kitchen cabinet of Fowler (Sir Norman), Ryder (Richard) and Hogg (Sarah)?

"You can give advice but you don't vote against," the MP declared in an interview in *The Spectator* (which was widely quoted for its startling revelation that the member loved his wife Janice and had never strayed during their 38-year marriage). "He [Major] should go back to being himself." The adviser? One Evans, D.

Williamson and Murdoch are joining forces

Master of the Dame's music

TWO stalwarts of the artistic establishment, Malcolm Williamson, Master of the Queen's Music, and Iris Murdoch, are joining forces to turn one of the writer's more obscure works into opera. Murdoch's *Above the Gods*, one of two Platonic dialogues in her *Acastos*, is set in the 5th century BC and concerns religion. Needless to say, Williamson, who once famously dismissed Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* as "factitious and repugnant", and Lloyd Webber as a cabaret composer, is not aiming for Webber-esque success at the box office.

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

Voters need better reasons to choose Labour

It may only be February, but the battle for the May and June elections has already begun. Over the weekend, Labour held a local government and European conference in Glasgow; and John Major set out his stall in an interview with *The Sunday Times*. As the Prime Minister well knows, the election results could determine his own future. But he is famous for confounding the pollsters at election time. So May and June will also be a test of Labour's ability to turn an opinion poll lead into votes.

As the so-called "modernisers" in the party keep saying, Labour cannot afford to be complacent. With a lead of some 20 points in the opinion polls the Opposition may look as if it is gaining from the Government's misfortunes: but it has to capitalise on them too. Labour has had spectacular leads in the past that have evaporated as election day approached. During 1990, the party was an average of 13 points ahead of the Tories and had several months in which it led by more than 20 points. That gap narrowed when Margaret Thatcher was replaced by Mr Major, and by the general election of 1992, Labour's marginal lead turned into defeat at the polls.

Many in the Labour Party believe that to win the next election Labour needs only to avoid scaring the voters. It is true that the electorate wants reassurance that a Labour Government would not tax and spend even more profligately than the Tories and that it would not be in hock to the trade unions. John Smith is better than any of his recent predecessors at exuding such reassurance. And he has scored some direct hits at the Government in the past few months, notably on tax, quangos and sleaze. But he has said very little about why Labour would be different. The electorate is entitled to ask, as Walter Mondale once famously did of Gary Hart, "Where's the beef?".

The Labour Leader is understandably wary of making specific policy commitments now to which he will be held at the next general election. It was the longstanding undertaking to increase child benefit and pensions that forced him, as shadow Chancellor, to produce Labour's election-losing Budget in 1992. But there is no reason why he should not set out Labour's current defining principles, and explain what marks them out from the principles of the Conservative Party.

Yesterday Mr Smith made a speech at the Glasgow conference in which he promised to put people back to work, to invest in infrastructure, to improve training, to spend efficiently, and to make the country's institutions more democratic and more accountable. These are fine aims, but apart from the last one, which party would not share them? In what way would Labour be any more effective than the Tories at putting people to work? And where would the money come from to repair schools and hospitals, modernise the railways and maintain the roads as Mr Smith promises to do? He says he will eliminate the Tories' waste and spend the money saved on better public services. But he does not explain why a Labour administration would be any more efficient than the current one.

Moreover, if Mr Smith wants to win the next general election, he needs to lure a large swathe of the middle classes back to the Labour fold. Yet Labour has so far done little to address their anxieties. Where is the new thinking on education, for instance, that might persuade middle-class parents that it could be safe to send their children to state schools, particularly in London? And could Mr Smith not expound now, for their benefit, a vision of how the contract between the citizen and the State would be different under Labour? They need positive reasons to vote Labour, not just negative reasons not to vote Tory.

CLINTON AND CASTRO

America must rethink its Cuban policy

The American embargo or "blockade" of Cuba, imposed by President Eisenhower, has entered its 33rd year. Instituted, with good reason, at the height of the Cold War, it now carries a sense of stagnation. Shorn of a Soviet fairy godmother, which cushioned it for decades from the worst effects of Communist maladministration, Cuba is today an impoverished, prostrate island. The time has come for Washington to set a new course: the embargo, punishing not so much the autocratic regime of Fidel Castro as its hapless subjects, must be eased.

There are good humanitarian reasons for this: ordinary Cubans face painful hunger and poverty. The embargo, particularly by the denial of access to food and essential medicines, compounds their misery. But the political arguments for a new American policy are, if anything, stronger: the embargo only strengthens the will, and the "Masada complex" of the regime. It gives Dr Castro an ill-deserved excuse for the derelict state of Cuban society.

The majority of Latin American states, which, to varying degrees, have shared American fears of the epidemic potential of *la revolución cubana*, would now prefer a negotiated transition to a more liberal order. But in America, decades of demonising Dr Castro have left a profound mark. Mr Clinton — like others before him — has inherited the Cuban policy of his predecessors: squeezing the island economically and isolating it diplomatically. This policy is not easily jettisoned; nor should it be, entirely. What is needed, however, is a less Manichean approach to the problem. If that is possible with Vietnam, it is possible with Cuba.

The hardliners of the Cuban American National Foundation have, on this issue, held hostage a succession of presidents. But the arrival of a Democrat in the White House has led to a decline in its influence, and that of its hawkish leader, Jorge Mas Canosa. This positive development should free Mr Clinton's hands, to an extent, in his dealings with Cuba. If he can lock horns with the gun lobby he can do so with Miami's "Cuban lobby", which is unswervingly Republican.

Mr Clinton must, of course, continue to be combative with Dr Castro: American domestic political considerations will ensure that. There can be no significant easing of the embargo without concessions by the man in Havana. All Cuban political prisoners must be freed; guarantees on restitution for property seized should be on the agenda. There must be evidence, also, of real democratisation, and a more serious commitment to economic reform than the partial legalisation of both the dollar and limited self-employment, undertaken last August by the Cuban government.

In focusing on life after Dr Castro, it is easy to forget that he is still there. Attempting to force the pace of his departure, by embargo or by other methods, will not ensure a better future for Cuba. Attention must focus not on the narrow, if attractive, goal of ending Dr Castro's reign, but on securing arrangements for a non-violent, orderly transition to democracy and a free market economy. The "Haiti-isation" of Cuba cannot be desirable. An unstable, ruined country 90 miles from Florida — posing an ugly refugee problem — is not in America's interests. Nor, therefore, is an unbending "blockade": its relaxation will uncage forces that will hasten, not delay, Dr Castro's departure.

MUCH ADO ABOUT WAITANGI

New Zealand belongs to both Maori and *pakeha*

The Prince of Wales has picked a sensitive time to be in New Zealand. Yesterday was Waitangi Day, when Maori feelings can run high. The Prince, duly, was at the receiving end of some fighting talk on the question of rights to land and resources from Maori *éminences grises*. There was little he could do but listen patiently, for this problem, above all others he has dealt with on his tour, is one that New Zealanders, both Maori and *pakeha* (white) alike, must resolve for themselves.

By the Treaty of Waitangi, signed in 1840 by Maori chiefs and Lieutenant-Governor Hobson, New Zealand was secured for the Crown. Maoris were guaranteed possession of their land, forests and fisheries in return. While there was inequality of bargaining power, and there is evidence that the Maoris had Hobson's choice, the deal was startlingly generous for its time: Australia, by comparison, was treated as *terra nullius*, and the Aborigines of no consequence.

This early recognition of their legal personality set the course for the acceptance of Maoris into wider New Zealand society. Sheep and (increasingly) Chardonnay apart, the country is best known for symbols — and personalities — of Maori descent. The British identify New Zealand with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, the rubbing of noses and the terrifying *haka*. The Maori is seen by both outsiders and by many New Zealanders themselves as the personification of their country. Contrast this with Australia, where the Aboriginal has, historically, been treated with contempt. For a Wallaby side to preface a rugby game with an Aboriginal ritual would be unthinkable.

It is not suggested, however, that life for Maoris is rosy. They have suffered discrimination and mistreatment, although never in the extreme form practised across the Tasman Sea. But successive governments have accepted, bowing to interpretations of the Treaty of Waitangi, that they have a special status in society.

By an enlightened decision, a Waitangi Tribunal was instituted twenty years ago, specifically to address their grievances. The government has conceded exceptionally generous fishing rights. A panoply of opportunities — based on affirmative action — exists for Maoris to "get ahead".

Inevitably there is danger here. Excessive, and unfocused, claims by radical Maori groups will provoke a backlash from the majority. Maoris constitute only 15 per cent of the population and, whatever the historical iniquities, must face today's demographic reality.

But a concerted attempt by the government to hasten their better integration into all walks of life is needed. This, allied to the opportunities which already exist statutorily, would help defeat the extreme "Waitangistas". And the Prince of Wales, on his next visit to *Aotearoa* — the Maori name for the country — might be spared ancestral wrath.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Tory policy and the route to recovery

From Councillor Nick Eriksen

Sir, Those who focus their complaints on John Major's style of leadership are missing the point and are merely encouraging further absurdities such as his attempts to "get tough" with his own right-wing MPs (reports, February 2, 4).

The Essex Tories who passed a motion of no confidence in John Major (report, February 2; letter, February 3), are voicing the worries of a large section — indeed, I believe the majority — of ordinary party members whose dissatisfaction stems not from Mr Major's style but from his policies. The Conservative Party's problems are the result of its having abandoned the policies and principles which underpinned our successes in the Eighties and without which we are left wondering what Mr Major's Government actually believes in.

A glance at the milestones of this Government's retreat from Tory principles is sufficient to highlight the scale of the problem. The principle of national sovereignty was abandoned over Maastricht; sound management of the economy was forsaken in a vain attempt to remain in the ERM (and even now interest rates are too high); family values and traditional morality were jettisoned from the "back to basics" package; and as a final straw we have now reversed our central policy of cutting spending and lowering taxes.

I believe that it is not too late to return to true Conservative policies, although time is certainly running out fast. The question whether this is done under John Major or another leader is really immaterial: it is policies that matter, not personalities.

Yours,
N. ERIKSEN,
Members' Room,
Southwark Town Hall,
Peckham Road, SE5.
February 4.

From Mr K. P. J. Armitage

Sir, About the time of the general election you published a letter (April 23, 1992) from Sir Allen Sheppard and 40 other leading industrialists, mainly from the service sector industries, who were looking "with boldness and determination" to make "recovery a self-fulfilling prophecy".

Well, interest rates have come down considerably but investment in manufacturing and new plant and machinery has continued to decline and there are still officially some 2.9 million people unemployed.

I suggest that perhaps this is an appropriate time for the industrialists to update their opinion on recovery and the general economic state of the country.

Yours faithfully,
K. P. J. ARMITAGE,
6 Deben Valley Drive,
Kesgrave, Suffolk.
February 4.

From Mrs Margaret van Veelen

Sir, I am one of the many voters who chose the Conservative Party and John Major to direct the affairs of our country.

In the last few months my small business has been showing hopeful signs of recovery. Perhaps this means that the very difficult years of recession are behind us.

The daily news from the City is encouraging and the unemployment figures are coming down. May we therefore not be grateful that things are looking up and may not some of this good news be attributed to the party and the man we chose to be at the helm?

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET van VEELEN,
Fifehead Manor Hotel Restaurant,
Middle Wallop,
Stockbridge, Hampshire.
February 4.

From Mrs J. M. Gwilliam

Sir, I hardly think Mr Major calling Conservative MPs "snipers" (headline, February 4, later editions) is accurate. According to my dictionary a sniper is one who attacks or criticises "especially from a position of security"!

Yours faithfully,
J. M. GWILLIAM,
78 Aysgarth Close, Crabtree Lane,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Future of Hong Kong — and China

From Mr D. J. C. Jones

Sir, I support the thrust of your editorial "Reality over Hong Kong" (January 21) and Miss Emily Lau's letter (January 27). It is precisely because most Hong Kong people would prefer to remain in Hong Kong, provided the essentials of their present lifestyle are preserved, that offering them the right to full British passports would provide, as you rightly put it, a safety net.

If the Chinese keep to the provisions enshrined in the 1984 Joint Declaration of one country, two systems, a high degree of internal autonomy for the Special Administrative Region government after 1997 and, in short, for the Hong Kong people to rule Hong Kong, there will be no need for the safety net to be invoked.

In reply to Mr Alistair Campbell (letter, January 27), I would point out that British trade with China is relatively small beer compared with that of Hong Kong. Hong Kong is the biggest trading partner of the People's Republic as well as the main outside investor. More than two million workers in southern China are employed directly by Hong Kong businesses and many more indirectly.

In short, Hong Kong remains a vigorous engine of China's economic development and can never be a threat to China.

If, as is clear from Mr Willoughby's letter (January 27), both the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law state that the Legislative Council of the future Special Administrative Region will be constituted by elections, and the Basic Law further says the ultimate aim is the election of all members by universal suffrage, I find it difficult to understand Chinese objections to Mr Patten's modest proposals.

They move only a little way in this direction; they accord with the Basic Law and they have always been open to consultation and amendment.

The main objection seems to be that the proposals are made by the present Hong Kong government, which, paradoxically, has over the years provided the biggest practical help to China of any administration in the world. In this regard, also, it is regrettable that China continues to prevaricate over the expansion of Hong Kong's port and airport facilities, which are essential for the future economic development of the territory and its benefit to China.

No doubt the Taiwanese, in particular, will be following these events closely and will be drawing their own conclusions.

Yours sincerely,
DEREK JONES
(Secretary for the Environment, Hong Kong Government, 1976-82),
Cliff House, Trevaunance Cove,
St Agnes, Cornwall.
February 3.

From Mr Peter Dally

Sir, Your sub-heading (February 1) says that "In his 90th year Deng Xiaoping faces the dilemma of how to bring prosperity to his country while maintaining political control by the troubled Communist Party".

Dr Fredrick Chien, Foreign Minister of the Republic of China government in Taipei, anticipated the Communist dilemma in 1987 when he declared in a lecture in the United States that:

> In both political and economic arenas there is no substitute for liberalisation ... Economic progress must go hand in hand with political democracy. That is the dilemma faced by the Chinese Communist regime, because it can never achieve economic progress by modernising while insisting on Communism.

The Western democracies have consistently failed to recognise that the Chinese people on Taiwan are creating a genuine Chinese revolution, and having established sound economic prosperity are now developing the first genuine multi-party democracy in China's 5,000-year history.

The ending of the political and diplomatic isolation of the Taipei government and its admission to the United Nations would enable the world to get a more balanced and informed view of Greater China.

The West cannot understand China without the Chinese, and the most enlightened Chinese are to be found in Taipei.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DALLY,
31 Seneca Way, Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
February 4.

'Remote' Redwood

From the Shadow Secretary of State for Wales

Sir, The suggestion in your leader, "Shuffle time" (February 1), that the Prime Minister should sack Mr John Redwood, *pour encourager les autres*, is a fine one, which has much support in Wales.

Mr Redwood's position as Secretary of State for Wales is in question on a number of fronts. Quite apart from the fact that he may, as you put it, "pride himself in making life difficult both for the Prime Minister and his colleagues", he has since his appointment in May shown himself to be quite unsuitable for the post of Secretary of State for Wales.

From the outset he has shown a complete lack of understanding of the unique identity of Wales and, not surprisingly, has therefore shown no inclination to rise to the challenges it offers. He has consciously scorned the advice of his own Welsh Office officials, has deliberately set himself apart from Welsh society in a way that neither of his two predecessors, David Hunt or Peter Walker, would have contemplated and has subjected us to a number of crass and ill-advised pronouncements on issues as diverse as the NHS, lone-parent families and education.

These attitudes simply reinforce the view, now almost universally held in Wales, that John Redwood neither knows nor wants to know us. He is a member of Parliament for an English constituency, seeking the attention of the English Conservative Party in an attempt to position himself for advancement in that party.

Your leader writer recognises that Mr Redwood is adrift in the Cabinet and you call for his dismissal. As we in Wales are having to suffer the consequences of a Secretary of State adrift from public opinion and unable to represent our interests, your call enjoys wide support in the principality.

Yours faithfully,
RON DAVIES
(MP for Caerphilly),
House of Commons.
February 3.

'Mad cow' disease

From Dr Helen C. Grant

Sir, Dr Kenneth Calman, the Government's Chief Medical Officer, believes (report, later editions, January 27) that there is no evidence that eating BSE-infected meat is a cause of the human spongiform brain disorder, CJD (Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease). Of course he is right. There is no evidence *yet* — neither will there be until the very long incubation period in humans (20-25 years approximately) is over.

Citizens of the UK were exposed to this organism between 1981 and 1989 when the (potentially infected) brains of cattle were added to our food chain. Indeed, we continue to be at risk since the brains of calves were not included in the November 1989 ban.

It is therefore theoretically possible that the tragic illness of Victoria Rimmer was contracted from BSE but, since she is only 16, the "agent" would have had to enter the bloodstream directly, as, for example, through a bitten tongue.

Of course humans are theoretically at risk of catching BSE. Almost five years ago the late Professor William Blackwood and myself drew attention (letter, March 23, 1989) to the many transmission experiments, carried out in the Government's own laboratories, which reveal the ease with which the disease was transferred to many mammals, including apes. We are just another ape.

In other words, we find ourselves in the midst of a transmission experiment courtesy of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. We must wait until the 21st century before we can make any statement about the effect on *Homo sapiens* of swallowing the scrapie/BSE agent.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. GRANT (Neuropathologist),
10 Antrim Grove, NW3.

Medical mishaps

From the Secretary of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Sir, Recent reports (January 24, 25) suggest that the availability of arbitration and mediation for small claims involving medical mishaps may lead to such claims being "jeopardised" and to "injustice". The availability of legal aid for litigation appears to be equated with access to justice.

Medical claims can be complex because the medical issues and the legal issues may not be readily separable. The present adversarial system of litigation with its strict separation of legal and medical professional functions is ill-suited to the investigation and resolution of medical claims.

The present system badly serves plaintiffs, defendants and the taxpayer because of its expense, delay and inefficiency. Those lawyers who support this system may be merely betraying their vested interest in its high cost.

Arbitration and mediation are well suited to medical disputes because they are less adversarial (in what is frequently a highly charged situation). They are cheaper and quicker. Furthermore, they are more flexible procedurally and can accommodate an approach which can combine both medical and legal disciplines.

This institute is setting up a medical special interest group to develop and promote its mediation and arbitration scheme for resolving disputes concerning medical liability. Enquiries from non-members are most welcome.

Yours faithfully,
K. R. K. HARDING,
Secretary,
The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators,
International Arbitration Centre,
24 Angel Gate, City Road, EC1.
January 25.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

The new Glyndebourne

From Mr S. L. Whiteley

Sir, I was pleased to see that the class-conscious report (February 1) on Glyndebourne was put into perspective by Rodney Milnes's observations in the Arts section (and see letter, February 3).

This was a tiny house providing a unique range and standard of opera productions in an idyllic setting and it is not surprising that demand exceeded supply. Nevertheless, if one applied immediately tickets went on sale and was prepared to accept alternative dates, productions and prices, it was usually possible to obtain reservations.

I well remember four of us seeing one of Strauss's lesser-known operas brilliantly sung and entertainingly directed, and enjoying an interval picnic meal shared out on to plastic plates.

Yours faithfully,
SAM WHITELEY,
8 Stonehaven Court,
Knole Road,
Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex.

Arts Council costs

From the Secretary-General of the Arts Council of Great Britain

Sir, Michael Elliott (letter, February 4) is upset that the Arts Council is going to hire extra staff to distribute the National Lottery funds for the arts.

The lottery could provide as much as £200 million a year for the refurbishment of arts buildings and the construction of new ones and for the support of film and crafts, but it will not spend itself. We will need people to receive and assess applications and to manage this substantial investment portfolio effectively.

The costs of these officials will be covered by lottery income, as the lottery legislation specifies, and not from our conventional government grant. No money will be diverted from the existing grants we give to artists and arts organisations.

The Arts Council delivers excellent value for money. We are set to cut our general overheads by £600,000 in the coming 12 months.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY EVERITT,
Secretary-General,
The Arts Council of Great Britain,
14 Great Peter Street, SW1.
February 4.

Min of Admin?

From Mr Theo Burrell

Sir, Recently I received a leaflet asking which of nine options I would prefer as new local government boundaries in Wiltshire. There are no questions about the services I would like, there is no hint how these might be provided. The leaflet did not review the task, merely the boundaries.

This continues a growing trend towards change rather than services. Thus rates begat community charge, which in turn begat council tax, all at great public expense. To face such costly and growing administrative challenges as these we surely now need a minister for administrative affairs.

Yours faithfully,
THEO BURRELL,
Highlow, Barn Piece,
Box, Corsham, Wiltshire.
February 5.

Matchless trio

From Ms Penny Aldred

Sir, You recently featured two women who are every bit as representative of the character of the nation as Judge Ward's three men (letters, January 25, 28, February 3): Lady Margaret Douglas-Home (interview, January 26) and Kaye Webb (interview, January 28). Happily they are both very much alive.

Yours faithfully,
PENNY ALDRED,
54 Belmont Park, SE13.

Pegasus bridge

From Mr L. David Brook

Sir, Your feature article, "Dakota revives D-Day memories" (January 29), states that 5 Parachute Brigade was ordered to capture Pegasus bridge. In fact, those so ordered were glider-borne troops of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry under Major John Howard.

The landing by Army pilots of the Glider Pilot Regiment within a few yards of the bridge was described at the time by Eisenhower's Chief of Air Staff, Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory, as one of the finest pieces of flying of the war.

The pilots glided from 6,000ft with no markers, radar or other aids and landed three eight-ton Horsa gliders, all practically touching each other, by the bridge a few minutes after midnight.

It was not until three hours later that 5 Parachute Brigade landed to reinforce the glider-borne troops which had captured the bridge.

Most contemporary references to this epic make this error, and in this year especially, when the Glider Pilot Regimental Association and some of the glider pilots who were involved will be commemorating the 50th anniversary of the capture of Pegasus bridge, it is important that credit is given where due.

Those visiting Normandy will be able to see the three inscribed stones by the bridge which mark the actual landing spots of the gliders.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BROOK
(Editor, *Eagle* (Journal of the Glider Pilot Regimental Association)),
Birds Hill, Great Bealings,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.

On the wrong line?

From Mr Arthur S. Pook

Sir, Miss Lynn Truss's notion (article, February 1) of using place names instead of numbers for telephone codes may find favour in the nearby town of Ayr, but would scarcely be welcomed in this county.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR S. POOK,
5 Dundeugh Village,
St John's Town of Dalry,
Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire.

هكذا من الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 5: The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence RN, this afternoon attended the Scotland versus England International Match, Murrayfield, Edinburgh, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the City of Edinburgh (Councillor Norman Irons, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
February 6: Divine Service was held in West Newton Parish Church this morning.
The Rev Canon George Hall preached the Sermon.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 6: The Duchess of Kent this morning left London Heathrow for the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

Memorial services

Lord Hindlip
The Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire was represented by the Earl of Shelburne at a memorial service for Lord Hindlip held on Saturday at St Mary's, Calne. Canon John Reynolds and the Rev Michael Henly officiated. Lord Hindlip and the Hon John Allsopp, sons, read the lessons. The Coldstream Guards were represented by Colonel I.W. Gore-Langton. Among others present were:
The Dowager Lady Hindlip (widow), the Hon Mrs Sarah Myddelton (daughter), Lady Hindlip and the Hon Mrs John Allsopp (daughters-in-law), the Hon Henry Allsopp, the Hon Sophy Allsopp, the Hon Natasha Allsopp, Mr Alexander Myddelton and Miss Claerwen Myddelton (grandchildren), the Hon Lady Harvey and the Hon Mrs Brooke (sisters), Mrs P Borwick and Mrs Michael Borwick (sisters-in-law), Colonel Michael Brooke and the Hon Elizabeth Allsopp.

Mrs Jean Lloyd Webber
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Jean Lloyd Webber was held yesterday in Central Hall, Westminster. The Rev Dr R. John Tudor, who was assisted by the Rev Dilwyn Banner, officiated and gave an address. Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, son, read the lesson.
The Central Hall Choir, conducted by Mr John Chapman, sang W.S. Lloyd Webber's *Jesus, dear Jesus* and Mr Levon Chilingirian (violin) and Mr Keith Beniston (organ) played W.S. Lloyd Webber's *Benedictus*. Mr John Lill (piano) played W.S. Lloyd Webber's *Song without words* and Rachmaninoff's *Etude-tableau in E flat minor Opus 39 No 5*.
Mr Julian Lloyd Webber, son, (cello) and Mr Julius Drake (piano) played Dvorak's *Songs my mother taught me*. The Redhill School Choir and the Action Children's Theatre, directed by Mr Harvey Norton and Mr Robert Pritchett, performed *Entr'acte Act II* from Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, conducted by Mr Michael Reed, with Mr Paul Maguire (piano), Mr Keith Jenkins and Mr Pete Walton (guitars).

Sir Robert Reid

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Robert Reid, CBE, will be held in St Pancras Church, Euston Road (corner of Upper Woburn Place), London, NW1A 2BA, on Wednesday, March 23, 1994, at 2.30pm. All are welcome. Those wishing to attend are asked to notify the Secretary, British Railways Board, Euston House, PO Box 100, London NW1 1DZ, or telephone 071-922 6328 so that appropriate seating arrangements can be made.

Sir Jack Longland

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir Jack Longland will be held in The Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, London, EC1, on Friday, March 11, 1994, at noon.

Merchant Navy Welfare Board

Peter G McEwen, Deputy General Secretary of NUMAST has been elected chairman in succession to David Ropner. Captain David Parsons, formerly of P&O European Ferries, takes over as general secretary in succession to Commander John Walker, who retired on February 1.

University of Portsmouth

At a conferment ceremony on February 2, the University of Portsmouth conferred honorary degrees on the Right Hon Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for Health, Hon LLD; Mrs Antonia Byatt, novelist and critic, Hon DLitt.

Nature notes

CHAFFINCHES and blackbirds have begun to sing again. The chaffinch's song is a brisk run of notes that get quicker and louder and end with a twirling sound. The blackbird's song is a more leisurely fluting; at present it is most likely to be heard at dawn. Rooks are gathering round their old nests in the treetops. Jackdaws are sitting on television aerials and looking down chimneys where they might make a nest. Great spotted woodpeckers have started to drum on dead trunks and branches; sometimes they will use a metal plate on a telegraph post as their sounding-board. The drumming is the equivalent of song in other birds: it warns off males and attracts females.

The jackdaw

The first red dead-nettles are coming into flower on roadsides: the hooded blossoms cluster round the top of the plant. Young stinging-nettle leaves are coming up: they sting as painfully as the old ones. Cuckoo-pint leaves are also appearing in small colonies on hedge-banks: they are like twisted green arrowheads with purple spots. Early leaf-buds are breaking on the grey elder twigs. In the woods dog's mercury is out, with its tassels of small green flowers.

DJM

Baroness Thatcher being installed as chancellor of the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg, Virginia, at the weekend. She is receiving the chancellor's necklace from the college president, Timothy Sullivan, left, and the rector, James Brinkley. Lady Thatcher will serve for seven years as chancellor of the college which is one of the oldest in the United States

Birthdays today

Mrs G.T. Banks, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 61; Lord Bellwin, 71; Mr P.W. Bennett, former chairman, W.H. Smith and Son Holdings, 77; Mrs Caroline Bingham, writer, 52; Lord Bottomley, 87; Miss Dora Bryan, actress, 70; the Earl of Cork and Orrery, 84; Mr Gerald Davies, rugby player, 49; the Earl of Harewood, 71; Mr Ian Jack, editor, *The Independent on Sunday*, 49; Mr Michael James, writer and nuclear energy adviser, 53; the Hon Peter Jay, writer and broadcaster, 57; Lord Keith of Kinkel, 72; Mr D.R. Langslow, chief executive, English Nature, 49; Sir John Leahy, diplomat, 66; Sir George Moseley, civil servant, 69; Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, executive chairman, Kingfisher, 52; Sir Philip Myers, former chief constable, North Wales Police, 63; Mr David Park, author, 41; Earl St Aldwyn, 44; Mr R.W. Watson, former director-general, NFU, 68; Sir Brian Windeyer, radiologist and former vice-chancellor, London University, 90.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Michael Gudgeon, Team Vicar, Hove Team Ministry (Chichester): to be Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, and Diocesan Director of Ordinands (Europe)
The Rev James Harkins, SSC (Society of the Holy Cross), Rector, Saint Esprit, New York, Episcopal Church in the USA: to be Chaplain, St George's, Venice, Italy (Europe)
The Rev Sandra Hayter, Team Minister, Burnham St Peter: to be Team Vicar, Crowmarsh Gifford (Oxford)
The Rev Marion Humphries: to be Assistant Curate, Cayton w. Eastfield (York)
The Rev Dr John Irvine, Priest-in-charge, St Barnabas, Kensington: to be Vicar, St Barnabas, Kensington (London)
The Rev Hedley Mackay: to be Diocesan Clergy Retirements and Clergy Widows Officer, responsible for the archdeaconry of York, and permission to officiate, diocese York
The Rev John Vellacott, non-stipendiary minister, Cholsey (Oxford): to be Chaplain, St Michael's Nerja, Spain (Europe)

Archaeology

Ice Age figures found in antique shop

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

FIVE Ice Age figurines have been rediscovered in a Montreal antique shop, a century after they vanished from public knowledge. Known as "Venus" figures, the tiny carvings of apparently pregnant women date to between 25,000 and 18,000 years ago.

The discovery, reported in the *New York Times*, was made four years ago, but the purchaser, a sculptor, did not realise the antiquity of his find. They were identified as belonging to the Upper Palaeolithic period of human prehistory by Dr Michael Bisson at McGill University, Montreal, and were then pinned down to the Grimaldi cave, in northern Italy, by Dr Randall White of New York University. "This could transform our understanding of the total collection of Ice Age figurines," Dr White is reported as saying.

The most impressive, he said, is a double figure of pale green serpentine, only two inches tall and showing a pregnant woman joined back-to-back with an animal. Five of the seven figures eventually recovered in Montreal are of women with distended bellies and breasts, and one may be of a man.

The figurines were excavated at the Grimaldi site, named after the Monaco royal family, around 1883. Their excavator, Louis Jullien, kept the find secret for a decade, and then sold seven of 15 figures he had found to the French national museum of prehistory. He moved to Montreal and died there in 1928. Harvard University acquired one figure from his daughter, and the others were forgotten.

The French national museum is to acquire the new material for an undisclosed price. Flecks of charcoal in cracks in the figures, which include examples in soapstone and ivory as well as serpentine, will be radiocarbon-dated to establish exactly how old they are, but their authenticity is not in doubt, Dr White said.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Thomas More, humanist and statesman, Chancellor 1529-32, London, 1478; Henry Fuseli, painter and writer, Zurich, 1741; Charles Dickens, novelist, Portsmouth, 1812; Sir William Huggins, astronomer, London, 1824; Sir James Murray, philologist, Denholm, Borders, 1837; Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, Vienna, 1870; Sinclair Lewis, novelist, Nobel laureate 1930, Sauk Centre, Minnesota, 1885.
DEATHS: James Stewart, 2nd Earl of Moray, murdered at Deorubristle, Fife, 1592; William Boyce, organist and composer, London, 1779; Ann Radcliffe, novelist, London, 1823; Henry Neele, poet, committed suicide in London, 1828; Joseph Sheridan LeFanu, novelist, Dublin, 1873; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Paris, 1894; Daniel François Malan, Prime Minister of South Africa 1948-54, Stellenbosch, Cape Colony, 1959.
William Lloyd smashed the 1st century Portland vase at the British Museum, 1845.
185 people died when HMS Orpheus was wrecked off the coast of New Zealand, 1863.
The main group of the Dead Sea Scrolls was discovered, 1947.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines
COMMANDER: M B Avery - Staff of FOSM Northwood 18.3.94; A Croke - Exchange USA 19.8.94; D R Morgan - Nato Belgium 3.7.94; A F M Taylor - SACLANT USA 12.8.94.
MAJOR: M G Wimpenny - JSDC Greenwich 15.4.94
Retirements
CAPTAIN: R Yeomans - 1.5.94
COMMANDER: A J Bolingbroke - 23.4.94; D C Rowley - 30.4.94; T J K Sloane - 5.5.94; B H Wood 20.4.94.

The Army
COLONEL: R A Stewart - To SHAPE Staff (BAE) 7.2.94; A D A Duncan - To Staff Coll 7.2.94.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: P St J L Baxter R Irish - To be CO 1 R Irish 10.2.94; J Longland RLC - To be CO 157 Tpt Regt 7.2.94; J W Morgan RLC - To HQ BAOR/HQ BRSC 7.2.94; D P Richards RA - To MOD 7.2.94; P S Robertshaw REME - To MOD 7.2.94.
Retirement
BRIGADIER: E C W Morrison late RH 14.2.94.

Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN: D J Salisbury - To HQSTC 4.2.94; C M Davison - To MOD 7.2.94; K Edwards - To HQSTC 7.2.94.
WING COMMANDER: P R Ollis - To No 10! Sqn Brize Norton 3.1.94; D R Richardson - To TPMRAFH Akrotiri 6.1.94; B R Neal - To JS Def Coll Greenwich 24.1.94; O D Wright - To MOD ACDS OR (Air) 14.1.94; G C Daffarn - To HQUKAIR (CHF POL&PROG) 24.1.94; T J Wood - To MOD PE D/Flying 31.1.94; R W Henry - To 120 Sqn Kinloss 31.1.94; F A Huddleston - To 241 OCU Brize Norton 31.1.94; S A Gibson RAF Staff C Bracknell 7.2.94; S Wood RAF Staff C Bracknell 7.2.94.

Appointment

Andrew Burrows, a Fellow and Lecturer in Law at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and a Professor Elect at University College London, to be a Law Commissioner from October 1.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W.P. Alexander and Miss A.F. Russell
The engagement is announced between William, younger son of Mr and Mrs Stanley Alexander, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Fiona, youngest daughter of Dr William and Dr Brigid Russell, of Wimbledon, London.

Mr T.P. Armitage and Miss S.J. Lee
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Dr and Mrs A.K. Armitage, of Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.E. Lee, of Walsall, West Midlands.

Mr D.A. Clark and Miss C.A. McClymont
The engagement is announced between Dean, elder son of Mr and Mrs Alan Clark, of Auckland, New Zealand, and Cindy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John McClymont, of Brisbane, Australia.

Captain M.J. Doran, RGJ, and Miss C.M. Hepburn
The engagement is announced between Malachy James, son of Mr and Mrs T.P. Doran, of Midhurst, West Sussex, and Caroline Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs N.M. Hepburn, of Wimborne, Dorset.

Mr A.R. Loder and Miss B.A. Norman
The engagement is announced between Adam, son of Mr and Mrs Stuart Loder, of Stoke Sub-Hamdon, Somerset, and Beverley, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Norman, of Chiltern Cantello, Somerset.

Mr J.D.H. Savage and Miss H.R. Clark
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Savage, of Sindlesham, Berkshire, and Helen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Clark, of Sidmouth, Devon.

Mr P.J. Chesters and Miss J.A. Lewis-Wagg
The engagement is announced between Patrick, only son of Mr and Mrs Keith Chesters, of Nantwich, Cheshire, and Juliet Anne, daughter of Mrs Rosemary Lewis and the late Alfred Wagg and stepdaughter of Mr Christopher Lewis, of Audlem, Cheshire.

Mr A.H. MacLeod and Miss F.J. MacAulay
The engagement is announced between Hamish, son of Mr and Mrs Duncan MacLeod, of Monkredding House, Kilwinning, Ayrshire, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin MacAulay, of Devonhall, Yetts o' Muckhart, Clackmannanshire.

Marriage

Mr M.T. Laws and Miss M.C. Bristow
The marriage took place on Saturday at All Saints' Church, Ryde, Isle of Wight, of Mr Mathew Laws, son of Mr Charles Laws and the late Mrs Grania Laws, of Winford, Somerset, to Miss Melissa Bristow, daughter of Mr and the Hon Mrs James Bristow, of Seaview, Isle of Wight. The Rev David Dale officiated.
The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Saskia Lawson Johnston, Lisa Woodgate, Alice Murray, Nicola Murray, Joy Bristow, Lily Bristow, Alice Bleach, Arthur Bristow, Edward Bristow, Archie Parrack, Felix Parrack, Hector McCorquodale, Miss Sophie Lawson Johnston and Miss Zöe Seddon. Mr James Crawford was best man.
A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

University news

Oxford
Merton College
Elected to the Sir Henry Savile Fellowship from Michaelmas Term for one year:
Professor Conrad Russell (fifth Earl Russell).
Cambridge
Corpus Christi College
Elected into a Fellowship under Statute 31A from October 1:
Christopher Mark Kelly, University Lecturer in Classics and Ancient History, Royal Holloway, University of London.
Durham
Recent appointments include:
Lecturers:
Dr Nigel Robinson (Biological Sciences); William McClure (East Asian Studies); Dr Robert Kentridge (Psychology).
Others:
Dr Tony Fawcett (Senior Experimental Officer, Biological Sciences); Ian McCormachie (Analyst/Programmer, IT Service); Rosemarie Stabback (Analyst/Programmer, IT Service).
Manchester
Appointments
David Mayer, Reader in Drama, to be Professor of Drama from January 1.
Thomas Christie, Senior Lecturer in Methods of Educational Research, to be Professor of Educational Assessment and Evaluation in the Department of Educational Studies, from January 1.
Philip John Gummett, Reader in Government, to be Professor of Government and Technology Policy in the Department of Government from January 1.
Anthony John Freemont, Senior Lecturer in Osteoarticular Pathology, to be Professor of Tissue Pathology in the Department of Pathological Sciences, from January 1.
Alexander Fred Markham, at present Professor of Molecular Medicine in the University of Leeds, to be Professor of Clinical Science from a date to be arranged.
Martin Hope Thornhill, at present Senior Lecturer and Honorary Clinical Assistant in Oral Medicine in the London Hospital Medical College, to be Professor of Medicine in Dentistry, from a date to be arranged.
Ernest Henry Rutter, reader in Structural Geology, to be Professor of Structural Geology from January 1.
John Nigel Ray, Reader in Mathematics, to be Professor of Pure Mathematics from January 1.
Alan Wilfred Pearson, Senior Lecturer in Decision Analysis in the Manchester Business School, to be Professor of R & D Management in the Manchester Business School and in the Faculty of Business Administration, from January 1.
Sir Duncan Nichol, Chief Executive of the NHS Managment Executive, to be a Professorial Fellow from a date to be arranged.
Michael Schofield, Director of the Health Services Management Unit and Senior Fellow in the Unit, to be Professorial Fellow from December 1, 1993.
Dr Dian Donnai, Consultant Clinical Geneticist in the North Western Regional Genetics Service (at St Mary's Hospital), to be Honorary Visiting Professor in Medical Genetics from January 1.
Dr J E Kitchen, City Planning Officer with the Manchester City Council, to be Honorary Visiting Professor in the Department of Planning and Landscape from October 1.
New appointments:
Martin Sefton, Lecturer in Econometrics and Social Statistics; Joanna Treasure, Clinical Lecturer in Pathology; Janet E Clarkson, Lecturer in Paediatric Dental Medicine and Surgery in the Department of Oral Health and Development; R J Farkas, Administrative Assistant in the Registrar's Department; Anne E Richards, Assistant Director of Enterprise in the Registrar's Department; Geoffrey Bone, Fire Officer in the Department of Estates and Services.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

I have set the Lord before me at all times; with him at my right hand I cannot be shaken.
Psalm 16:8 (REB)

BIRTHS

ADAMS-CAIRNS - On Wednesday February 2nd, at St George's Hospital, London, to Jane (née Russell) and Iain, a son, Alastair Max, a brother for Emily and Angus.

CRAIG - On February 1st, in Joddah, Saudi Arabia, to Karen and Malcolm, a son, Sam William Roy.

CULROSS - On January 30th at Moulamein, New South Wales to Christina (née Bell) and Jon, a daughter, Katherine Rachel.

HARRISON - On January 24th, to Fiona (née Roupell) and Graham, Jess Amelia, a sister for Oliver and Kit.

JOHNSON - On February 4 1994 at Whipps Cross Hospital, to Liz (née) Graham and Andy, a beautiful baby boy Oliver Graham Beresford (A doubles partner for Andy)

OGILEY - On January 28th, to Bridget (née Holleran) and Julian, a daughter, Claire Eleanor Jane. Deo Gratias and grateful thanks to staff at Hammersmith Hospital.

PEREIRA - On February 1st 1994 to Frankie and Nigel, a beautiful son, Daniel Jerôme. (Child number one).

WATSON - On 20th January 1994, to Tara (née Burman) and Keith, a son, Nathan, a brother for Natasha and Joel.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SISLEY:HUTCHINSON - On February 6th 1944 at St Francis of Assisi, Notting Hill, Denis Alban to Bettina.

DEATHS

ALLEN-MIREHOUSE - Peacefully on February 3rd 1994 after a long illness, Major John Newton Seymour. Funeral Wednesday February 9th. Service at St Mary's Church, Angle at 1.30 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired in aid of the RNLI to John Roberts & Sons Funeral Directors, 51 Bush Street, Pembroke Dock, Dyfed.

BALLARD - On January 31st 1994 at Flowerdown Nursing Home, Winchester, Edward Hugh Athelstan, in his 88th year. To join his loved ones. Funeral private at his own request. No flowers or letters please.

BRYANT - On 3rd February 1994 peacefully at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, Richard Charles, father of Joanna, Annabel and Charles. Funeral on Wednesday 9th February 2.45 pm at Putney Vale Crematorium. No flowers. Donations to the Wolfson Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Wimbledon, SW20.

BUCKINGHAM - Muriel (née Ferguson). Most dearly beloved friend of so many, died February 4th.

CLOUGH - On 1st February, peacefully, Dorothy Nance (Dollie) JP, aged 99. Widow of W. Harold Clough, FIA. Much loved mother of David, Malcolm and Keith. Loved grandmother and great grandmother. Private Cremation. Thanksgiving service for her life will be held at Crowstone St George's United Reformed Church, Kings Road, Westcliff-on-Sea on Tuesday 15th February at 11.45 am. No flowers please. If desired, donations to Abbeyfield South East Essex Society, St George's House, Park Terrace, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 7PH.

CORLETTE - It is with much sadness that Aiglon College must announce the death of Gwynedd Christian Corlette, sister of the late John Hubert Christian Corlette, founder of the College. Miss Corlette, who lived her entire life of nearly 90 years in London, died after a short illness in Avon House Nursing Home in Kensington on 31st January. She is survived by her sister Mrs Hilda Gervers, in New York and her two nephews, Michael in Toronto and John in Santa Fe. Service Tuesday 8th February 11 am at St Stephen's Church, Southwell Gardens, for cremation later at Mortlake Crematorium. A Memorial Service will be held in June.

DENHOLM-YOUNG - On 4th February 1994 in Oxford after a long illness, Rachel Estcourt, dearly loved and devoted mother of Piers, the late Geraldine and Serena, widow of Patrick and sister of Robert. Funeral private plus memorial service to be notified. Donations to Friends of Sobell House, Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

GROSE - On February 3rd 1994, peacefully, Elenor, aged 81. Dearly loved mother of Janet and Peter, grandmother of Deborah, Stuart, Nicholas and Philip, great-grandmother of Alexandra and Annabel. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, on Friday February 11th at 2 pm. Flowers to P.G. Oxley Ltd., 47 High Street, Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex.

HARTLEY - On February 3rd 1994, at home, Peter Harold Trahair, husband of Ursula, father of Philippa and Mary. Funeral Service at 12.00 noon on Friday February 11th at Badingham Church.

HODGE - On February 3rd, William Lang, CPA, CChem, FRSC. Dearly loved and loving husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather. Funeral on Friday February 11th at 3.00 pm, Croydon Crematorium. Donations to Royal Marsden Hospital, Downs Road, Sutton.

PRITCHARD - On February 3rd 1994, peacefully at his home in Penzance, J.W.H. (Joe), a solicitor. Beloved husband of Muriel and father of Margaret, Alison and Andrew. Private cremation. No flowers by request. A memorial service will be held at a later date. All enquiries to Mr R.D. Burroughs Funeral Director, Penzance. (0736) 64062.

RENSHAW - On February 3rd 1994, peacefully at home, Horatio Herbert aged 91, beloved husband of the late Nona, much loved brother of Diana and adored uncle and great-uncle. Private funeral, family flowers only. Donations if desired to Royal National Institute for the Blind c/o J.H Kenyon Ltd., 85 Westbourne Grove, London W2 4LL.

SUNDERLAND-TAYLOR - On February 1st 1994 in Woodhouse Nursing Home, Ethel aged 91 years, widow of Ralf. Formerly of Aldeburgh, Suffolk. No flowers, no letters at her request.

SUTCLIFF - On February 1st 1994 a fortnight after Edward's death, Digna, peacefully and bravely at the end of a long illness. Much loved and missed by all her family, friends and colleagues.

TOWNSEND - Miriam née Lampen, unexpectedly on 3rd February aged 85. Beloved wife of David Townsend of Dunmow, mother of Sarah, grandmother of Emma and David. She will sadly missed. Cremation for family and close friends at 10.30 am Wednesday 9th February at Harlow Crematorium. Service of thanksgiving and memorial at St Mary's Dunmow on Friday 18th February at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired either to Action Research, at Vincent House, North Park, Horsham RH12 2DA, or to St Mary's Dunmow at the church.

ZERNOV - Militza (née) Lavrov, widow of Nicolas, died at home February 4th 1994, aged 94 after a long illness. Funeral service on Wednesday February 9th, 10.30am, Russian Church of the Annunciation, 1 Canterbury Rd, Oxford, followed by interment 11.45 am Wolvercote Cemetery, Oxford.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

SWEET - Maud, died 6th February 1944, aged 62. Was specially remembered, with love, on the 50th Anniversary.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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OBITUARIES

NORMAN DEL MAR

Norman Del Mar, CBE, conductor and music writer, died yesterday aged 74. He was born in Hampstead on July 31, 1919.

NORMAN DEL MAR was the exuberant master of a wide range of music, who excelled at conducting the works of such late romantics as Mahler, Elgar and Richard Strauss. His greatest love was unquestionably Strauss and, ironically, he may well be remembered more for his splendid three-volume biography of the composer than for anything his famous enthusiasm achieved on the rostrum. It was not only a scholarly and thorough work, but also written in the sort of straightforward and humourous vein one could always expect from him in conversation. Del Mar's encyclopaedic knowledge of music was shared with audiences of Radio 3's *Music Quiz* at Christmas for many years.

That Del Mar did not, as a conductor, achieve the fame and position that he undoubtedly deserved, may have been due to a slightly overbearing, schoolmasterly manner that could be off-putting to players. But while they might be irritated by his personality, colleagues always admired his intimate understanding of even the most abstruse score — and Del Mar was indeed something of a pioneer with modern scores, particularly British ones, from Britten onwards. His formidable powers of communication were never better employed than in the spoken introduction to Britten's *Let's Make an Opera* at its early performances (he conducted the 1949 première at Aldeburgh), something which he always did well. He was also consistently successful in engaging the co-operation of some very young children to take part in the choruses.

Norman Rene Del Mar (the name was of distant Italian origin) was educated at Marlborough and at the Royal College of Music. There he learnt conducting under Constant Lambert, composition with R. O. Morris and Vaughan Williams, and studied the violin, piano and horn. He also studied theory privately with Mátyás Seiber. After war service with the RAF Central Band, where he shared the horn desk with Dennis Brain (of whom Del Mar told many amusing anecdotes), he played in Sir Thomas Beecham's newly-minted Royal Philharmonic as second to Brain again. He and Brain had a motto — "game for anything" — one which Del Mar tried to carry through into his conducting.

He gained his first conducting experience with the amateur Chelsea Symphony Orchestra, which he had founded in 1944. It gave the first British performances of then little-known works by Dohnányi, Strauss, Hindemith and Poulenc and more significantly, it performanced Mahler's Second Symphony in 1947 and his Ninth in 1949, both virtually unknown works at the time.

Del Mar's work came to the attention of Beecham who engaged him as his assistant with the RPO in 1947. In the famous London Strauss Festival of 1947, Del Mar not only met the composer, but also conducted Strauss's music in the composer's presence. In the late 1940s he worked with the Royal Ballet and the English Opera Group (EOG). The latter connection brought him into contact with Britten and the early days of the Aldeburgh Festival. In 1949 he conducted *Let's Make an Opera* and *The Rape of Lucretia* at the festival, and became principal conductor of the EOG, remaining in the post until 1956. Inevitably, Britten fell out with Del Mar in the end over a not very significant matter. Some time later they were reconciled and Del Mar conducted *Noye's Fludde* at the Festival in 1960.

After freelance work with, among others, the Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra, he was appointed conductor of the BBC Scottish Orchestra in 1960, broadening its programme over the next five years. In 1968 he was appointed chief conductor of the Göteborg Symphony Orchestra beginning a long association with Scandinavian orchestras that ended in the directorship of the Danish Aarhus Symphony Orchestra, 1985-88. At the same time, he conducted for the stage with Scottish Opera (*Madame Butterfly*, *Der Rosenkavalier*) and at Covent Garden (*Fidelio* in 1964-65 with Regine Crespin among his Leonoras). In the concert field, he conducted all the major London orchestras and gave the premières of many complex scores either with one of them or with the smaller orchestras that began to proliferate in the 1960s. He conducted over sixty of the Proms, including the Last Night on three occasions.

He also conducted a legendary account of Mahler's Third Symphony with the BBC Symphony in 1962 before that work had made any headway in Britain: indeed, it was instrumental in forwarding the symphony's cause. Altogether, he was a magnificent but under-rated interpreter of Mahler. Yet his mastery of the broadest canvas was never fully recognised by our orchestras, who preferred to go for the big continental names. It was his lasting regret that, with his love of opera, he never became music director of a major company.

Del Mar was a prolific writer. His work on Richard Strauss — approaching almost half-a-million words — took 14 years to write and was published between 1960 and 1972. His enthusiasm here, as elsewhere, never smothered his critical faculty, and he quoted Strauss with relish: "I may not be a first-rate composer, but I *am* a first-class second-rate composer" (something which, suitably amended, might serve as an epitaph for Del Mar himself). He also wrote a study of Mahler's Sixth Symphony, published in 1980, and the following year produced *Orchestral Variations*, which attempted to clear up the wrong notes in standard editions of 45 familiar works. In 1987 he published *Companion to the Orchestra*. Between 1952 and 1960, he was professor at the Guildhall School of Music. As a composer, he wrote two symphonies, a string quartet, and a number of pieces for his friend Dennis Brain.

Del Mar's record collection was huge, amounting to one of the largest private music libraries in the country, and he played his way through it in alphabetical order every morning while preparing himself for the day. Five thousand of his records were 78s: Del Mar's pride and joy to the end was a 1936 acoustic gramophone, complete with horn, though as a concession to technical progess his wife bought him a compact disc player seven years ago (something which he never really liked, but which became something of a necessity with his many compact disc recordings in recent years). He was always ready to produce some gem to astonish a guest or to prove a point and his vast knowledge of other conductors' interpretations was legendary.

He was appointed CBE in 1975. For the past 12 years he had been in increasingly poor health, and was diagnosed with cancer four years ago. His widow, Pauline, is the sister of the late William Mann, former music critic of *The Times*. She survives him, together with their two sons, Robin, a viola player, and Jonathan, a conductor.

GWEN WATFORD

Gwen Watford, actress, died in hospital in London yesterday aged 66. She was born on September 10, 1927.

WITH a career spanning fifty years, Gwen Watford was one of the most thoughtful and sensitive actresses of her generation. Although she achieved her greatest fame in the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies as one of the most frequently seen faces in television drama, it was always to the theatre that she returned to replenish her energies and technique. Her name alone on a bill may never have been sufficient to guarantee queues at the box office but she won the respect of the entire theatrical profession. She herself had the highest standards of theatrical integrity and never appeared in work in which she did not believe.

Born in London Gwen Watford was educated at the Orchard School, St Leonards. Her stage debut took place at the age of 16 at the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings, followed by repertory seasons at Buxton, Croydon, Watford, Salisbury, Hornchurch and Coventry. Among leading parts she played in the provinces were Shaw's Saint Joan and Blanche DuBois in Tennessee Williams's *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Her first London appearance was at the Embassy, Swiss Cottage, at that time, under Anthony Hawtrey's management, one of the most successful "fringe theatres" (although that term was not yet in general use). In a revival of Dodie Smith's *Dear Octopus* in December 1945, she played Fenny, a sympathetic part which suited her perfectly. Subsequently she appeared in two plays which transferred from the Embassy to the West End: Joan Temple's strong melodrama *No Room at the Inn* set in wartime Britain, which had a long run at the Winter Garden in 1946, and Kenneth Horne's *A Lady Mislaid* at the St Martin's in 1950.

Gwen Watford's dark hair and brown eyes gave her the right Italianate looks for Elisabetta in *The Queen and the Rebels* by Ugo Betti at the Haymarket in 1955. During the Old Vic season of 1960-61 she played her first leading part in London. This was Mary Stuart in Schiller's tragedy (translated by Stephen Spender). Mary's encounter with the formidable Elizabeth (Valerie Taylor) was played with such truth by both actresses it was hard to believe that in real life the two queens never met. Also at the Old Vic she was an enchanting Titania opposite Alec McCowen as Oberon, as well as the redoubtable Lady Percy in *Henry IV Part 1*. It was becoming obvious that here was an actress of commendable range.

In 1967 she was well cast as Margaret, the intellectual Schlegel sister in an adaptation of E. M. Forster's *Howard's End* at the New Theatre (now the Albery), and at Greenwich in 1972, a memorable Masha in *The Three Sisters*. In marked contrast she was Miss Moffat, the determined spinster in *The Corn is Green* by Emlyn Williams, and the beautiful Catherine de Troyes in a revival of John Whiting's *Marching Song* again at the Greenwich Theatre.

Hidden behind large horn-rimmed glasses, she tackled an altogether lighter part in a revival of Noël Coward's *Present Laughter* at the Vaudeville. She played Monica, Garry Essendine's invaluable secretary, and for her performance in the role she received a SWET award. She

was Lady Alice More in *A Man for All Seasons* at the Savoy, and with the RSC a gentle but dignified, Countess in *All's Well That Ends Well*. At the Albery in 1991 in Pinero's farce, *The Cabinet Minister*, she was the Dowager Countess of Drumdurris, an alarming figure in tiara and pearls, given to announcing as a catchphrase "I have a motive." The following year she took over the part of Lady Hunstanton, the vague, kind hostess in Oscar Wilde's *A Woman of No Importance* at the Haymarket.

She made her debut on television in 1957 as the Madonna in Joy Harrington's acclaimed *Jesus of Nazareth*, and by the end of the following year her performance as Queen Elizabeth in Clemence Dane's *Till Time Shall End* won her the award for best actress of the year — an accolade that was to be hers again in 1965.

These were the days of "live" black and white television drama, and established West End stars tended to fight shy of the new, high-risk medium. In their place a remarkable group of then comparatively unknown but highly talented actors filled the gap — Denholm Elliott, Leo McKern, Lee Montague, Anthony Bate, John Robinson, John Phillips among them. Gwen Watford and Billie Whitelaw were the two leading ladies, and, though the fees were extremely small for work on single plays, the artistic rewards were immense. Already some of the best dramatists in the country were beginning to write for television. Watford herself worked in plays by many of them — David Mercer, David Hare, James Saunders, Willis Hall, Hugh Leonard — and was also produced by brilliant directors such as Alan Bridges, Rudolph Cartier, Alan Clarke, Marc Miller and Michael Barry. When Alan Bridges's production of David Mercer's *Let's Murder Vivaldi* was revived recently for a Mercer retrospective, her work, along with that of her co-stars Denholm Elliott and Glenda Jackson, received glowing notices from a new generation of critics.

It took some time for TV producers to capitalise on her brilliant sense of comedy. But the two autobiographical series of *Don't Forget To Write* which Charles Wood wrote for Gwen Watford and George Cole enshrined some of the most subtle writing and playing of comedy ever seen on British television. This was a series without audience participation — it was typical of her that she never appeared in a "sit-com". Her last television work was among her best — as the mother in Terence Rattigan's *The Winslow Boy* with Ian Richardson and Emma Thompson (whose role as the sister she had played in an earlier TV production), as Dolly Barton in two Miss Marple stories with Joan Hickson, and in Alan Ayckbourn's *Relatively Speaking* with Nigel Hawthorne.

Although the cinema was never really her medium, she appeared in a number of films, including *Never Take Sweets from a Stranger* and *The Ghoul*. She also played Calpurnia in the lavish Burton-Taylor *Cleopatra*, and a small part in Richard Attenborough's *Cry Freedom*.

She was vice-chairman of the Combined Theatrical Charities and was one of the four trustees of Equity as well as being closely involved with the Ladies' Theatrical Guild.

She was married to Richard Bebb, actor and collector of theatrical memorabilia.

PROFESSOR MONICA COLE

Professor Monica Cole, Professor of Geography at Bedford College, University of London, 1964-87, died on January 8 aged 71. She was born in London on May 5, 1922.

IN HER chosen field Monica Cole was an academic of considerable distinction. Her research and writing as a geographer began in South Africa, to which she first went when she was 25. By the time she returned to Britain at the age of 29 she had published a number of papers and had developed an interest in geobotany and mineral exploration. Her reputation as a notable South African geographer had been established.

After school in Wimbledon, where her family lived, Monica Mary Cole went to Bedford College, University of London, where she graduated with a first-class BSc degree in 1943. Following a period of war service, and having obtained the degree of PhD in 1947, she left for South Africa, where she worked initially at Cape Town University, then moving to Witwatersrand a year later to join the staff of the Department of Geography under Professor John Wellington, where she remained until 1951.

In that year she returned home to take up the post of senior lecturer at the newly-established University of Keele. She stayed there 13 years before being appointed by her own Alma Mater to the Chair of Geography at Bedford College, University of London, in 1964. Just over 20

years later Bedford, no longer purely a women's college, amalgamated with Royal Holloway to become Royal Holloway and Bedford New College and it was from the combined institution that Monica Cole retired in 1987.

Her interests had gradually broadened and for the last 12 years she was director of research in geobotany, terrain analysis and related resource use, at the college. The Australians had already turned their thoughts to the work pioneered by the team led by Monica Cole when they planned to use rockets in their search for new mineral deposits. In the space of a short flight a rocket could obtain a synoptic view of an area 100-400 kilometres wide. The cost of this type of survey was a fraction of the cost of surveys carried out by ordinary aircraft. The work was assisted by a grant from the British Government and support from the Australian Bureau of Mineral Resources.

In the course of all her work, Monica Cole acquired intimate knowledge of the regional geography of the Southern Hemisphere. Her extensive record of work carried out in Australia, Southeast Asia, South America and Southern Africa culminated in the publication by the Academic Press of her book *The Savannas: Biogeography and Geobotany* in 1986. (Her first book on South Africa had appeared in the Methuen series, *Regional Geography of the Continents*, a quarter-of-a-century earlier.)

Monica Cole was throughout her career a committed and most effective teacher, traits which were reflected in the fact that many of her undergraduates subsequently went on to do research work.

On retiring from the professorship of geography in 1987, she continued her work as emeritus professor and Leverhulme research fellow. Her outstanding contribution to geography and geographical research was acknowledged by the Royal Society in the award of the Murchison Medal in 1991. She was also honoured by the South African Geographical Society by being made an honorary life member in 1993.

Apart from her academic achievements, Monica Cole was a most impressive and regal woman and remained so to the very end of her life. She was a person of many talents. In her final year she spent some time painting watercolours, some of which were exhibited shortly before she died. She was unmarried.

THE REV HAIK HOVSEPIAN-MEHR

The Rev Haik Hovsepian-Mehr, Superintendent of the Assemblies of God Churches in Iran, died from unknown causes on January 20 aged 49. He was born in Tehran on January 6, 1945.

HAIK Hovsepian-Mehr was apparently killed by his opponents after he had successfully appealed to Western governments to intervene in the impending execution, for apostasy, of one of his colleagues — a Muslim-born Protestant cleric, the Rev Mehdi Dibaj. It was a typical gesture from a man who refused to keep quiet, often at the cost of his own personal safety, about the plight of Iran's 350,000 Christians. Recently he declined to sign a letter stating that Christians enjoyed full constitutional rights in Iran and released a report giving a detailed account of violations of religious freedom.

Hovsepian-Mehr was the superintendent of the evangelical Assemblies of God Churches in Iran, though outside his church he liked to call himself a "bishop" in order to facilitate his dealings with the Tehran authorities. He was born into a middle-class Armenian Christian family in Tehran. At the age of 15 he became an evangelist and two years later decided to work full-time for the church.

He started as a pastor in a church in Majidieh, a suburb of Tehran, when he was 17. While on military service in Gorgan, north Iran, he established a Christian cell group which eventually grew to become the Gorgan church and of which he later became pastor. He studied the scriptures and English by himself, and was ordained in the mid-1960s.

In 1969 Hovsepian-Mehr was involved in a car crash. His baby son was killed and he and his wife were badly injured. Neither was expected to walk again yet both made remarkable recoveries and returned to Gorgan several months later. Mehr carried on in Gorgan for the next 14 years, during which time Christians in Iran found themselved in an increasingly hostile religious climate. On one occasion radical Muslims planned to burn down Hovsepian-Mehr's church. They were stopped only by last minute government intervention. Church meetings were regularly broken up by rocks hurled through the windows. Muslim converts were harassed and spies planted in the congregations.

Hovsepian-Mehr moved to Tehran in 1981 to become the superintendent of the Assemblies of God Churches in Iran. At that time there were seven Persian-speaking Assemblies of God churches in the country. Hovsepian-Mehr established five more, and others were started among the Armenian and Assyrian populations. In 1986 the Protestant churches in Iran united to establish the Council of Protestant Churches, of which Mehr was elected its first chairman.

He is survived by his wife and four children.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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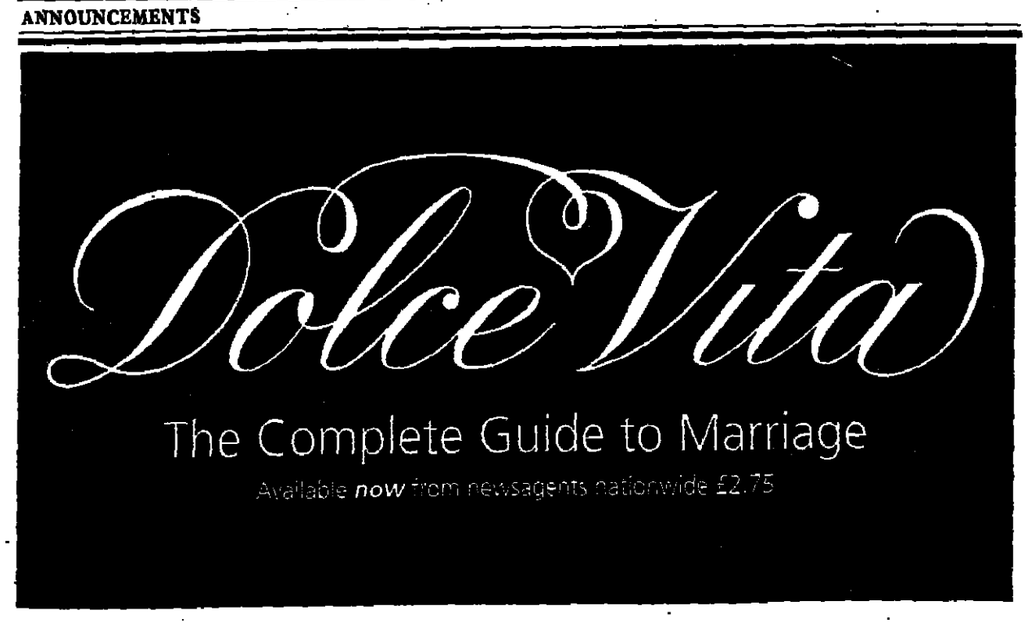
ANNOUNCEMENTS



ON THIS DAY

February 7 1928

Professor Berger (1834-1933) was a teacher at the Royal College of Music; for many years he was the honorary secretary of the Philharmonic Society.

CHARLES DICKENS.

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS.
(BY FRANCESCO BERGER)

Charles Dickens was born on February 7, 1812, and died on June 9, 1870. The sayings and doings of his characters are more frequently quoted in conversation and in print than those of any author since Shakespeare.

When the late distinguished conductor of Italian opera, Mancinelli, was leaving Italy to fulfil his engagement here, his wife begged him to bring her on his return the gift she valued above all others, a letter or autograph signature of Charles Dickens. And when I was showing that eminent Bohemian violinist Ondricek over Westminster Abbey, his first remark was:—"Wo liegt Tikkenz?" On being shown the spot, he knelt down and reverently kissed the stone saying as he rose:—"Das war ein Mann."

I first knew Dickens in 1855, though I had read his early books before. I had worshipped him from afar, never dreaming that I should enjoy the privilege of his personal friendship. That such good fortune befell me is somewhat remarkable, because I was his junior by some 20 odd years—in point of age the contemporary of his eldest son "young Charles." Soon after our first acquaintance, he invited me to associate myself as musical composer with the plays he produced in his private theatrical days, *The Lighthouse* and *The Frozen Deep*, both written by his friend Wilkie Collins, in which he and members of his family acted. It was largely during the numerous rehearsals of these that I had opportunity for noticing not only his exceptional histrionic talent both in melodrama and in comedy, but his untiring energy, his complete absorption in whatever task he undertook, his unsparing sacrifice of self for the good of others, and his extraordinary physical endurance . . .

When I once spent a week with him and his family in Boulogne I had opportunity of noticing him from a different aspect—that of devoted, tender-hearted father. For, when one evening he, Wilkie Collins, and I visited a fair then in progress in that quaint old town, he carried his youngest boy on his shoulders from show to show, that he might see the fun as much as his elders . . .

He had no affections of manner whatever. He put on no "side" and no assertiveness. His generosity to friends or needy comrades of the pen was extreme. To his intimates he expressed his opinions quite freely, and these, on Art matters, were decidedly in favour of the "popular" as opposed to what is erroneously considered the "classic." I once heard him assert that a picture which told no story was no picture at all. I think he was more in sympathy with French authors—Victor Hugo, Balzac, Dumas—than Germans. In his politics, he was liberal, in his friendships warm-hearted, and in his aversions sincere. He loved the good things of the table openly, and was not ashamed of his taste . . .

I have heard Thackeray describe Dickens as a week-day preacher. But he was much more than that. In youth he is the companion of our mirth, in mid-life he is our friend and philosopher, and when we are old he is our solace and comfort.

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY FEBRUARY 7 1994

NEWS

Clinton calls crisis talks on massacre

■ World leaders were united in their condemnation of the massacre of 68 people in a Sarajevo marketplace — but they were still nowhere near agreement on how to halt the bloodshed in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

With calls for Western military intervention growing, President Clinton summoned an emergency gathering of his national defence team to consider a response, and Britain and France called for a meeting of Nato ..... Pages 1, 10 and 16

Smith unveils Labour business plan

■ John Smith delivered a ferocious attack on the Prime Minister as he launched his "Business plan for Britain" aimed at creating jobs and boosting recovery. Mr Smith unveiled plans for more investment in industry, training and skills and said Britain would be better off under Labour ..... Page 1

Aeroflot ban move

The Russian airline Aeroflot may be banned from flying into London unless it responds "immediately" to allegations that international safety rules were ignored on a recent Heathrow-Moscow flight ..... Page 1

Heseltine plea

Michael Heseltine called on the Tory leadership to keep its nerve as the Prime Minister came under fire for failing to take a tough line with Michael Portillo ..... Page 2

Poisoned by fumes

A boy aged 22 months died and his brother was fighting for his life after emergency treatment for carbon monoxide poisoning in a decompression chamber .. Page 3

Spanish sell-out

So many Britons want to holiday in Spain this summer that many resorts are already full. Fears are growing that hotels could be overbooked ..... Page 6

Tory enquiry

Sir Norman Fowler has announced an enquiry into membership of a Conservative constituency branch as fresh evidence emerged of a campaign to infiltrate the party ..... Page 2

DIY school first

Parents in a Somerset village are aiming to open the first of the Government's "do-it-yourself" selective schools ..... Page 6

Law students suffer

Law students are being forced into debt or part-time work following a big reduction in the number of local authorities giving grants towards the cost of study for their professional qualifications ..... Page 5

Italy poll mood

The Italian general election campaign starts officially today, but deep popular disgust with corrupt politicians has already set the tone Page 11

Clinton budget fears

President Clinton today presents one of the toughest budgets in years, causing deep dismay among liberals in his own party, who are outraged by cuts in several social programmes.. Page 12

Sudan offensive

Tens of thousands of refugees from a government offensive in the south of Sudan continued to stream into Uganda ..... Page 13

Mandela warning

Nelson Mandela has said that if sabotage attacks by right-wing groups on ANC offices continue, there will be retaliation from Umkhonto we Sizwe, its armed wing ..... Page 13

Cuba shortages bite

Rationing has become a way of life for Cubans as the Castro regime sticks to its Socialist principles and resists the market economy ..... Page 12

Policewomen isolated in macho world

■ Nearly 20 years after women police won equal status with male officers, they remain isolated in a service dominated by a masculine culture. Women make up nearly 13 per cent of the police strength but an investigation by *The Times* shows that they are held back by Home Office inertia and often outright hostility from male colleagues ..... Page 9

The Prince of Wales rubbing noses with Maori rights activist Mike Smith in Waitangi, New Zealand, yesterday. Report, page 3

SPORT

Cricket: In the wake of England's seven-wicket victory over Leeward Islands, there were fears that Andy Caddick might be unable to finish the tour of West Indies because of a suspected stress fracture in his right leg ..... Page 29

Football: Andy Townsend scored his first goal in three months as Aston Villa beat Leeds United in a dour encounter ..... Page 21

Rugby union: The game between Ireland and Wales on Saturday proved to be a magnificent and frank physical conflict, but, at the last, it was decided by a piece of geometrical pedantry ..... Page 23

BUSINESS

Under threat: John Cahill, who was brought as chairman of British Aerospace to restructure the group, is likely to be ousted by colleagues ..... Page 40

Cheaper calls: BT is to abolish premium payments for peak-time calls between 9am and 1pm to honour this year's commitment to cut prices. The move will cut household bills ..... Page 40

Credit limits: The data protection registrar is to stop banks from passing on the names of customers with good credit records for use by other businesses without their express permission ..... Page 40

FEATURES

Treasure hunt: "When the announcement comes, the stomach sinks: not just with worry about finding another jewel, but also about the process itself." Mary Ann Sieghart on finding an ideal nanny ..... Page 14

Top gear: Every now and again the fashion world plays around with sportswear ..... Page 15

EDUCATION

Health warnings: "The role of tobacco advertising is not to recruit but to subvert; it undermines the health warning by its existence," John Rae writes ..... Page 31

ARTS

Travelling light: With large-scale touring of the classics ruled out, the Royal Ballet takes to the road this week with a small group taking small-scale works to smaller venues ..... Page 33

Baby love: Despite a literate script from Colin Welland, and a brave performance by Julie Walters, Lynne Truss was not convinced by BBC1's *Bambino Mio* ..... Page 33

Riot of laughter: Gogol's satire, *The Government Inspector*, has had its original intention restored in an unexpectedly hilarious Irish adaptation of the Russian classic ..... Page 34

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES

Joanna Lumley, who stars in BBC's *Absolutely Fabulous*, has joined the campaign to bring an end to the export of live animals Page 5

Jean-Marie Le Pen, whose French National Front congress in Paris at the weekend reflected a decline in the party's support Page 11

Greg Norman won the Johnnie Walker Classic in Phuket, Thailand, to displace Nick Faldo at the top of the Sony world rankings Page 24

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Tiny and the Fayeds team up

■ "Would you believe that Tiny Rowland would now help the Fayeds with their writing?" Bernard Levin on the magnificent story of a new clash

Case against the defence

■ Are defence solicitors and barristers failing their clients? Sean Webster reports on a study of the profession

Guildford Four: fact and fiction

■ Director Jim Sheridan explains why fiction is more important than fact in his controversial new film about the Guildford Four, *In the Name of the Father*

CROSSTHINGS

The bitter personal rivalries that fester beneath the sedate surface of a Middlesex golf club are explored in *Cutting Edge* (Channel 4, 9pm) ..... Page 39

OPINION

Where's the beef?

If Mr Smith wants to win the next General Election, he needs to lure much of the middle classes back to the Labour fold ..... Page 17

Clinton and Castro

The American embargo or "blockade" of Cuba now carries a sense of stagnation ..... Page 17

Waitangi Day

The Prince of Wales has picked a sensitive time to be in New Zealand. Yesterday was Waitangi Day, when Maori feelings can run high ..... Page 17

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Whatever its other merits, President Clinton's decision to give a visa to Gerry Adams has been taken in Britain as an indication that we do not matter as an ally of the United States ..... Page 16

PETER RIDDELL

The local elections on May 5 and the European parliament elections five weeks later are widely being treated as a referendum on Mr Major: if the Tories do disastrously, then he will go. Politics, however, seldom works in such a predictable way ..... Page 16

OBITUARIES

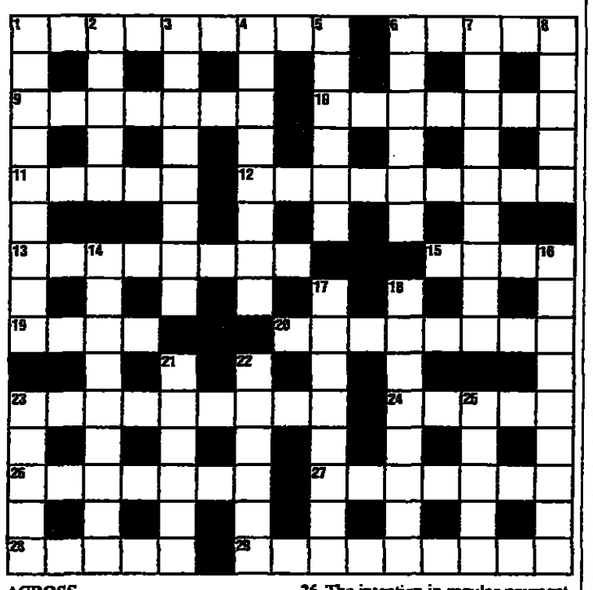
Norman Del Mar, conductor and music writer; Gwen Watford, actress; Professor Monica Cole, geographer; the Rev Haik Hovsepian-Mehr, Superintendent of the Assemblies of God Churches in Iran ..... Page 19

Why China must respect the views of the Hong Kong people.. Page 17

With news of the horrific loss of life in the latest attack on Sarajevo, it now makes more sense than ever to lift the UN arms embargo
— *The New York Times*

Hanoi is especially eager to enlist the American strategic weight against its traditional rival, China
— *The Washington Post*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,459



ACROSS

1 Station sailors in the ship — they'll keep things secure (3,6).
6 A rapid writer (5).
9 Say something about former currency (7).
10 "Rubbish! Many cut back," he claims (7).
11 Additional cash required for mushroom production (5).
12 Fruit drink fit for the gods in the Orient (9).
13 Viewed too much, so must be supervised (8).
15 Mean to grab one or two (4).
19 Tense abstemious fellow with a heart of gold (4).
20 The colour of those suffering from mal-de-mer? (3-5).
23 Appallingly mean beast bringing disgrace (9).
24 Clubs with uplifting aims (5).
26 The intention in regular payment for clothes (7).
27 Run over? Right, create commotion! (7).
28 The painter Doctor X backed (5).
29 Leisure should include exercise to develop self-control (9).

DOWN

1 This runs on water — beats atom smashing! (9).
2 Open up with evident hesitation and come to the point (5).
3 Stupid — unlike The Times crossword solver (8).
4 Stop with some exasperation when put in jeopardy (8).
5 Taking a gun to church makes no appeal to sense (6).
6 A scholar's holding motorists up, being a crawler (6).
7 Reforming can tire — it can get complicated (9).
8 Few engineers are articled (5).
14 "By — most have been misled" (Dryden) (9).
16 Reviving with eau-de-Cologne say after near-collapse (9).
17 Returns concerned with equipment (8).
18 Resplendent silver bedding (8).
21 Best of French achievement (6).
22 A trying man upset better-half (6).
23 Jack is on edge, unable to take any more (5).
25 A little springbok — a picturesque animal (5).

KNOCKANDO PURE SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,458 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationery rack

Times Two Crossword, page 40

The Times Knockando Crossword Championship, 1994: as more competitors have qualified for the Bristol and London A and B regional finals than can be accommodated, they will be required to attempt an Eliminator puzzle to be published on Thursday, February 17.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Herts & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouce,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Ventnor, Isle of Wight, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 0.58in; highest sunshine: Teignmouth, Devon, 8.6hr

Tourist rates are on page 37

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Wales and western and central England will have sunshine and showers. Some heavy showers are likely near the coasts.

Northeast England may stay wet for much of the daylight hours, but the southeast will brighten up with the odd shower. Northern Ireland and western Scotland will be bright and showery too.

However, rain is likely over the rest of Scotland with snow on the hills. Much of the country will have a dry evening, though the Northern Isles will stay wet.

☐ **London, Central S and N, SW and NW England, E and W Midlands, Channel Isles, S and N Wales:** Sunny spells and showers. Wind SW, moderate. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **SE and E England, E Anglia:** Brightening up with the odd shower. Wind W to SW, moderate. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** Bright and showery. Wind SW, moderate. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **NE England, Borders:** Rain likely. Drier by the evening. Wind SW, moderate. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** Outbreaks of rain. Drier later. Wind SE, moderate. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland.** Wet. Wind SE, fresh or strong. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** Unsettled with more showers.

AROUND BRITAIN

MIDDAY t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	-	6	43	du
Anglesey	2.2	0.02	8	46	sh
Aspatria	-	-	7	45	c
Aviemore	0.1	0.01	6	43	sh
Belfast	2.6	0.28	7	45	b
Birmingham	X				
Bognor R	8.3	-	10	50	s
Bournem'th	4.4	-	11	52	b
Bristol	3.0	-	9	48	c
Buxton	-	0.06	1	34	du
Cardiff	4.5	0.05	9	48	sh
Clacton	3.2	-	8	46	s
Cleethorpes	X				
Colwyn Bay	1.0	0.04	9	48	sh
Cromer	1.2	-	7	45	b
Dunbar	X				
Eastbourne	7.6	-	10	50	s
Edinburgh	1.3	-	9	48	c
Eskdalemuir	-	0.17	5	41	r
Exmouth	6.8	0.01	10	50	s
Falmouth	X				
Folkestone	4.8	-	11	52	s
Glasgow	1.3	0.02	9	48	sh
Guernsey	6.3	0.02	11	52	s
Hastings	8.9	-	11	52	s
Herne Bay	X				
Hove	5.4	-	10	50	s
Hunstanton	7.0	-	10	50	s
Isle of Man	1.7	0.09	8	46	b
Jersey	5.1	0.01	10	50	b
Kinloss	0.3	-	8	46	c
Leeds	0.8	-	9	48	c
Lerwick	-	0.27	5	41	sl
Leuchars	1.6	0.01	8	46	r
Lettermptn	7.8	-	10	50	s
Liverpool	-	0.09	8	46	r
London	7.5	-	11	52	s
Lowestoft	-	0.01	7	45	fg
Manchester	0.1	0.01	9	48	b
Margate	X	-	9	48	s
Minehead	X	0.03	10	50	s
Morecambe	-	0.04	8	46	sh
Newcastle	0.8	-	7	45	du
Newquay	X				
Norwich	2.0	0.01	8	46	fg
Nottingham	0.4	-	7	45	c
Penzance	7.2	0.45	10	50	s
Plymouth	6.1	0.03	10	50	s
Poole	4.5	-	12	54	s
Ross-o-wye	3.6	-	10	50	b
Ryde	X				
Salcombe	X				
Sandown	6.0	0.01	10	50	s
Saunton Snd	2.4	0.24	9	48	c
Scarboro'	X				
Scilly Isles	6.3	0.40	9	48	sh
Shanklin	6.4	-	10	50	s
Skegness	6.8	-	9	48	s
Southend	6.5	-	10	50	s
Southport	-	0.06	9	48	d
Southsea	6.8	-	11	52	s
Stornoway	0.1	0.18	8	46	sh
Swanage	4.6	-	11	52	s
Teignmouth	8.6	-	11	52	s
Tenby	5.0	0.29	9	48	b
Tiree	1.2	0.58	8	46	sh
Torquay	8.1	0.02	12	54	s
Tynemouth	1.0	-	6	43	c
Ventnor	6.0	0.01	12	54	s
West-s-mare	1.1	0.30	9	48	c
Weymouth	5.3	-	11	52	s

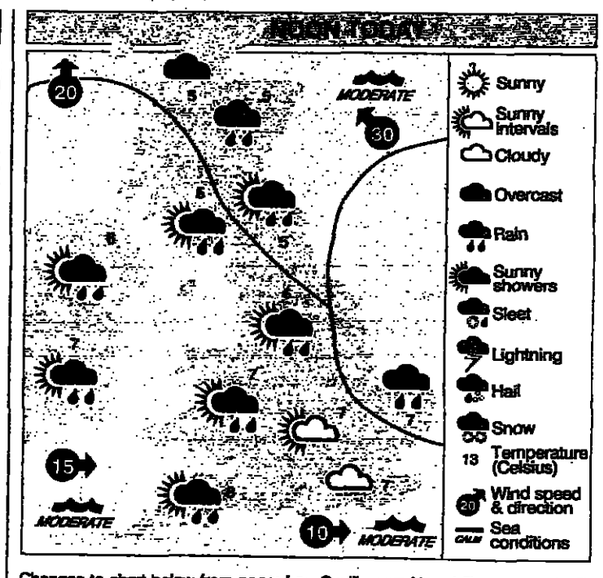
These are Saturday's figures.

ABROAD

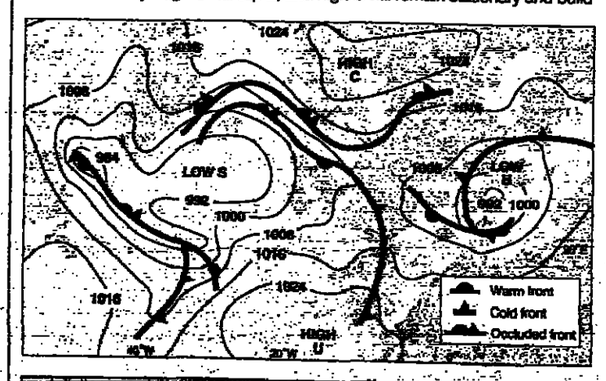
	C	F	
Ajaccio	11	52	c
Akrotiri	17	63	s
Alex'dria	19	66	s
Algiers	11	52	r
Amst'dm	7	45	c
Athens	16	61	f
Bahrain	19	66	s
Bangkok	32	90	f
Barbados	28	82	r
Barcelona	10	50	s
Beirut	15	59	s
Belgrade	10	50	f
Berlin	2	36	c
Bermuda	22	72	s
Biarritz	11	52	s
Borde'x	11	52	f
Brussels	7	45	f
Budapest	7	45	f
B Aires	20	68	f
Cairo	21	70	s
Cape Tn	24	75	s
Chicago	-3	27	s
Ch'church	16	61	c
Cologne	4	39	d
C'phagn	0	32	c
Corfu	18	64	f
Dublin	7	45	f
Dubrovnik	14	57	s
Faro	13	55	c
Florence	9	48	c
Frankfurt	5	41	r
Funchal	18	64	f
Geneva	5	41	r
Gibraltar	14	57	s
Helsinki	-16	3	s
Hong K	24	75	s
Innsbruck	8	46	s
Istanbul	12	54	s
Jeddah	27	81	s
Jo'burg	19	66	f
Karachi	28	82	s
L Palmas	18	64	c
Le Tquet	8	46	f
Lisbon	12	54	d
Locarno	8	46	c
L Angeles	16	61	f
Luxembg	5	41	c
Luxor	25	77	s
Madrid	4	39	s
Majorca	13	56	s
Malaga	14	57	s
Malta	10	50	f
Melb'rne	23	73	s
Mexico C	-	-	-
Miami	26	79	f
Milan	7	45	f
Montreal	-5	23	f
Moscow	-14	7	f
Munich	5	41	c
Nairobi	27	81	s
Naples	17	63	c
N Delhi	21	70	s
N York	5	41	c
Nice	13	55	s
Oslo	-5	23	sn
Paris	9	48	c
Peking	10	50	s
Perth	22	72	s
Prague	2	36	c
Reykjavik	5	41	f
Rhodes	17	63	s
Rio de J	36	97	f
Rio de J	30	86	f
Riyadh	20	68	s
Rome	10	50	r
Salzburg	3	37	c
S Frisco	11	52	f
Santiago	31	88	s
S Paulo	33	91	c
Seoul	-6	43	c
Sing'por	30	86	r
Stkholm	-5	23	f
Strasb'rg	5	41	c
Sydney	28	82	s
Tangier	12	54	f
Tel Aviv	17	63	s
Tenerife	19	66	f
Tokyo	14	57	s
Toronto	-8	21	s
Tunis	13	55	c
Valencia	13	55	s
Vanc'ver	0	32	fg
Venice	9	48	r
Vienna	10	50	f
Warsaw	0	32	c
Wash'ton	6	43	c
Wel'ngton	17	63	s
Zurich	5	41	c

X = not available

MOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: Low S will move N and fill and low H will remain stationary. High U will slip E, and high C will remain stationary and build



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.09	6.34	11.43	6.47
Aberdeen	10.56	3.83	11.38	3.91
Avonmouth	4.12	10.93	4.50	11.17
Belfast	8.27	3.16	8.59	3.17
Cardiff	3.57	10.20	4.05	10.41
Devonport	2.49	4.7	3.28	4.8
Dover	8.28	5.72	9.04	5.90
Falmouth	2.19	4.5	2.59	4.4
Glasgow	10.30	4.4	10.59	4.2
Harwich	9.06	3.50	9.39	3.48
Holyhead	7.53	4.62	8.30	4.90
Hull	3.34	6.36	4.00	6.56
Ilfracombe	3.12	7.71	3.47	7.78
King's Lynn	3.42	5.4	4.06	5.6
Leith	—	—	12.08	4.90

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	8.37	8.18	8.14	8.22
Lowestoft	6.56	2.26	7.11	2.28
Margate	8.22	4.15	9.50	4.21
Milford Haven	3.22	5.66	4.04	5.88
Newquay	2.28	5.9	2.59	6.0
Oban	3.34	3.3	4.22	3.2
Penzance	1.57	4.7	2.33	4.6
Portland	3.48	1.6	4.25	1.5
Portsmouth	8.37	4.2	9.23	4.3
Shoreham	8.42	5.31	9.19	5.41
Southampton	8.20	4.10	9.05	4.21
Swansea	3.25	8.05	4.01	8.14
Tees	12.57	4.63	1.22	4.65
Wlton-on-Nde	9.02	3.68	9.34	3.67

Sun rises: 7.30 am. Sun sets: 5.01 pm. Moon rises: 5.15 am. Moon sets: 1.56 pm.

London 5.01 pm to 7.30 am
Bristol 5.11 pm to 7.39 am
Edinburgh 4.59 pm to 7.58 am
Manchester 5.03 pm to 7.44 am
Penzance 5.28 pm to 7.47 am

New Moon February 10

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1994. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HR, telephone 051-546 2000. Monday, February 7, 1994. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

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The Royal Ballet hopes small will be beautiful

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British Aerospace chief to go after boardroom clash

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THE TIMES

MONDAY FEBRUARY 7 1994

Callard steps up to seal Scotland's fate

By David Miller

RAYMOND Chandler never wrote a script more extraordinary than the scene played out by Scotland and England at Murrayfield on Saturday, with the respective roles of heroes and villains undetermined until the last kick. Well might Gavin Hastings bite his lip, close to tears and unable to speak at the final whistle. The lion of Lions laid low by England's 15-14 victory.

How cruel is sport. At Lansdowne Road, Elwood, revivalist stand-off half of the greens, tarnished his image when striking his supposed match-winning kick against a post from 20 yards or less with seven minutes to go. Yet that could not remotely compare with the agonies witnessed at Edinburgh, where Callard emerged as the instrument of a triumph-by-split-seconds which left even the victors unable to celebrate.

Brian Moore, the England hooker, said that Callard had played like J. P. R. Williams in the second half, and Kenneth Williams in the first. That was unfair. J. P. R. would not have added to England's discomfort with some hazardous touch kicking and would have been defensively steadier against Scotland's relentless up-and-unders, while Kenneth at least was funny.

Just picture the scene. With eight minutes remaining, England, against the run of play and continually hounded by Scotland's inspired pack, take a 12-11 lead with Callard's fourth penalty. Undaunted, Scotland continue to pummel their disorganised opponents, never mind that they have lost Wainwright, rampant general of the pack, and Scott Hastings with injuries.

With only two minutes to go, England are pinned within yards of their own line, but it seems, as Andrew tellingly kicks for touch, that Scotland, overwhelmed by New Zealand and then Wales, but now transformed beyond recognition, will be denied the victory they deserve. They are not finished, however. Suddenly, finding a window-sill of space on the left, Townsend lofts the drop kick of dreams. Up and up it soars, and the whole ground holds its breath. Against the grey-girder background of the new grandstand, the ball floats like a gull and dips between the line of the posts.

Scotland surely have won, never mind by a mere two points, 14-12. They have erased the humiliations of their past two matches, reminded all their passionate countrymen that pride still burns in the Scottish game, that they can still live with the best, though who on this day could claim England were the best? Credibility, identity, those precious commodities of minority nations, were in Scotland's palm. "Scotland [traditionally] live to create mayhem," Geoff Cooke, the England manager, said. Mayhem it may have been for England, but it was music to the crowd.

Now Scotland had only to stifle any thrust that England might summon from their resources in the remaining strands of injury time. Instead, for a few moments too long, Scotland allowed themselves to believe the victory was in the book. Mentally, they were already celebrating, never mind the sober warning in the forecast of that morning's Scotsman. "Talk of a home victory is pipe-dream stuff."

England, who had done so little in the past hour following a quicksilver start, threw in one last surge. A brave run by the England scrum half, Kyran Bracken, who until then had been wholly overshadowed in his second international by the return of Gary Armstrong, was followed by an attempted dropped goal from Andrew which was blocked. Would the whistle never blow?

Scotland panicked. Resisting the foe, they grounded the ball, but a negligent, scooping illegal arm gave England a penalty about 40 metres in front of the posts. "It's easy, get on with it," the captain said, handing Callard the ball.

Easy? Ask Gavin Hastings. Had he not missed from closer, here against England, in the World Cup? Had he not now fluffed two kickable attempts, right and then left, in the last 11 minutes, that would have put Scotland out of reach?

In this one kick lay, perhaps, Callard's whole international future. Hero or villain. It was down to him. Like a veteran, he was as neat as can be. Seldom has such a match, hanging by a thread, been decided by a moment as simply executed as crossing a deserted country road. The whole of Scotland winced. If there is a romantic fate worse than being jilted on the altar steps, Scotland had just discovered it.

ADAM BUTLER

Callard launches the last, decisive kick to secure England's 15-14 victory over Scotland in the five nations' championship match at Murrayfield

Shoulder injury likely to sideline Evans

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

JEUAN Evans, the captain of the Wales team which leads rugby union's five nations' championship, may miss the match in Cardiff against France on February 19. A scan on the shoulder injury sustained in the 17-15 win over Ireland on Saturday will show whether ligament damage will prevent him playing, but forecasts are gloomy.

Wales will certainly be without their other Llanelli wing, Wayne Proctor, who will have his jaw wired today after it was broken in two places in a tackle. He will be out for at least two months, but his natural replacement is Nigel Walker, the Cardiff wing forced by concussion to sit out the Irish match.

Pierre Berbizier, coach to France, the champions, watched the game in Dublin and is optimistic that Laurent Cabannes, their outstanding flanker, may have recovered from a leg injury in time to play before the end of the season, but Alain Penaud, the Brive stand-off, could miss the match in Cardiff because of ligament damage to his right knee, incurred yesterday in a club match against Castres.

Rob Wainwright, the Scotland open-side flanker who broke a cheekbone during the 15-14 defeat by England, will probably miss the rest of the championship. Their other casualties, Gary Armstrong, Doddie Weir and Scott Hastings, should, however, all be fit in time for the game in Dublin against Ireland on March 5.

England, gasping with relief at their injury-time victory, gained some encouragement from the victory by their A side over Italy in Piacenza and the 86-17 win by their emerging players against Spain in Elche yesterday.

Hastings haunted, page 22
Justice done, page 22
Contrasting fortunes, page 23
Irish luck runs out, page 23

Townsend escapes general malaise

Aston Villa 1
Leeds United 0

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

THE Trades Description Act took a heck of a beating at Villa Park yesterday. The 26,919 people who had walked through a torrential downpour in the belief they would see adventurous football played between two multi-million pound sides pursuing Manchester United in the FA Carling Premiership were instead given a sodden misrepresentation of football.

A lone goal, an opportunist strike by Townsend punishing a lumbering mistake in defence, was all there was to show for 90 damp minutes, an hour and a half in which it was more than evident that Villa are interested principally in their pursuits of two cups, and Leeds ... it is hard to know where Leeds's interests truly lie.

They have grown dour, in the image of their manager, Howard Wilkinson, and have gone six matches without victory, a month and a half in which their pretentions had begun to fall away from the time, on New Year's day, they visited Old Trafford and gave effort only in contriving a goalless draw.

It never dawned on Leeds that, in apparently attempting the same outcome here, they risked being the first team wearing their colours to depart beaten by Aston Villa in the Midlands. Yet there was no excuse: the pitch had been the one protected area during the two hours' downpour, covered until the kick-off by a black tarpaulin.

At half-time, the statistics showed that Leeds had had four attempts on goal. Statistics lie. Three of those attempts were comic, near own-goals by Villa themselves.

At least the first of those represented something new and something old in Leeds. Strachan, four days off his 37th birthday, perceptively released Kelly, just 19, down the right. These two players, representing different generations in a transitional Leeds period, teased Teale, who, from Kelly's centre, headed the ball thunderously against the underside of his own crossbar.

Having got away with that, Villa tried harder. McGrath, sliding to try to clear a low cross from Strachan, misjudged it and was relieved when the ball bounced wide of the post off his thigh. Then Bosnich, twice threatened by his own defenders, evidently thought he may as well do the trick himself and his lapse in concentration, taking his eye off the ball, was not properly punished when his attempt to kick away a back pass from Barrett was sliced, again fortuitously, wide of his net.

Between those three misdemeanours, Leeds had created a spectacular moment of their own. Strachan began it with a back-heel, McAllister instinctively swept the ball forward and Deane, a £2.7 million centre forward who has scored but seven times in 31 games, narrowly failed with an optimistic drive from 25 yards.

Atkinson and Daley, for Villa, did at times trouble Leeds with their pace, but their finishing was profligate, particularly Atkinson's, who, having burst past Fairclough, selfishly attempted to shoot off-balance and at an angle when Saunders was in a scoring position.

How can it be that professional performers, paid as much in a month as many of their followers receive in a year, can so wilfully appear to put in such little effort? How can the Premiership justify its name when, on the same afternoon at Leicester and Middlesbrough, venues in a lower league, the ball entered the net ten times?

Finally, somebody did the necessary. Townsend, his nose blooded by the elbow of Newsome in the first half, his left wrist heavily strapped after another collision, needed only a calm presence of mind to capitalise as Newsome missed with a clumsy attempt to connect with the ball before beating Beeney with a delicate shot.

The lethargy was broken. Seven minutes later, Saunders, outwitting Fairclough around the edge of the penalty area, fashioned, in his mind, a more spectacular goal, but though his right-foot shot was full of power and accuracy, Beeney stretched magnificently to turn the ball over his bar. It was an exchange that transcended the game by a distance.

ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): M Bosnich — E Barrett, P McGrath, S Teale, S Staunton (sub: N Cox, 58min) — R Houghton (sub: D Yorke, 74), K Richardson, A Townsend, A Daley — D Saunders, D Atkinson.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): M Beeney — G Kelly, C Fairclough, J Newsome, A Dorigo — G Strachan, G McAllister, G Speed, S Hodge — D White (sub: N Whelan, 72), B Deane

Referee: I Borrett

Making all the difference, Townsend scores the winner yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Caddick to be tested for stress fracture

ENGLAND'S seven-wicket win over the Leeward Islands in Antigua, in their opening first-class fixture of the Caribbean tour, was overshadowed yesterday by anxiety over the condition of the player of the match, Andy Caddick (Alan Lee writes). A stress fracture of the right shin, which would end his tour, is suspected.

Caddick, who took six wickets as the Leewards were beaten shortly after lunch on the fourth day, is expected to undergo a scan in Barbados tomorrow to identify the extent of the damage.

Dave Roberts, the England physiotherapist, said: "This sort of shin soreness is an occupational hazard for fast bowlers. He may be all right after a few days' rest."

Caddick has been a revelation on the tour and would almost certainly play, if fit, in the first Test match, which starts in Jamaica next week.

Match report, page 29

Have you ever wanted to pick the England team? Play *The Times* 1st XI game today. Details on page 28.

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THE LOAN CORPORATION

Resurgent Scotland expose shortcomings of Carling's side

England haunt Hastings with dramatic victory

Scotland 14
England 15

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS Gavin Hastings who raised the subject of ghosts — poor, distraught Hastings, Scotland's leading points scorer, who could not kick the goals on Saturday when it mattered and salvage completely the pride of a team discounted even by their own.

There were spectres everywhere: shades of the rampaging Scottish packs of yore at the old-style Murrayfield and of fallible England teams of the Eighties, but the one that haunted Hastings was that of June 12 last year when the British Isles side he led was beaten by a penalty kick at the death in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Then Hastings, who has scored 448 points for his country, kicked six of eight penalty attempts. Now he kicked only two from six, with a missed conversion for good measure, and then had to watch Jonathan Callard loft over a straight, 40-metre kick — just like Grant Fox eight months ago — to give England victory by five penalty goals to a try, two penalties and a dropped goal. No wonder Hastings could not summon words at the pernicious post-match television interview to which all captains are exposed these days.

Yet what can one say of Callard? The Bath full back's nerve held when it mattered, amid a twitchy England side whose inexperience in the five nations' championship was so roundly exposed. Gone was the iron determination and concentration that beat the All Blacks less than three months ago, replaced by indecision and error.

The match, so short on skill and long on mistakes, overturned all preconceptions. Amid huge drama, the lead changed hands five times in the final quarter. England hardly deserved to retain the Calcutta Cup so poorly did they play, save for the speed with which they reacted to Townsend's dropped goal that seemed to have won the match for the Scots with only two minutes and 16 seconds remaining on Lindsay McLachlan's watch.

Had England been as positive in the previous 78 minutes, the result would surely never have been in doubt. Whenever they accepted the responsibility of keeping the ball in hand, they stretched the Scotland defence and Carling looked the most penetrative runner on the field. But their decision-making was so bad, and so tamely did they hand over the initiative, that Hastings, Townsend et al found that even the poorest of garryowens was enough to put the England defence in a dither.

Scotland reverted to the game that historically has served them so well, creating chaos in the orderly English ranks, harrying their prey, worrying about the offside line only when the referee did. Their seminal moment came midway through the first half, when Milne and Burnell drove a tapped penalty deep into English territory and a muted Murrayfield came suddenly alive, convinced that this day their team was not to be a doormat.

England had already displayed their raw underside by failing to score a try in their controlled opening spell. Carling and Clarke had paved the way but the obvious running of the backs — surely Guscott would have made certain the chance was taken — allowed Logan to pin down Tony Underwood. Thereafter, England fell to pieces; even their lineout, so assured in the first half, became a lottery for Bracken.

England's game cried out for the presence of the injured Richards among the forwards, for a figure around which to group, but there was none. There was hardly a maul worthy of the name from England; the Scots, their pack a stone or so heavier, did better both there and at the rucks. The words in training a week earlier of Jim Telfer, the former coach who is now the Scottish Rugby Union director of rugby, had obviously made an impression.

Geoff Cooke, the England manager, ticked off the errors: "Our lineout didn't work well, we gave our scrum half an absolute nightmare, we didn't deal with the kicks and we lost ball in contact, which is something we have prided ourselves on." The incoherence of the display left the case for Back's inclusion still unproven and a question mark hanging over the organisation of the back three — full back and wings.

The long-ball game played against New Zealand was meat and drink to the Scots because they hoofed possession into the air and chased it. Whether the number on your back is 5 or 15, the ball is there to be caught, not flapped away, as Bayfield did, allowing Reed to send Stanger clear. Wainwright, whose magnificent game was sadly terminated by a broken cheekbone, beat the disrupted cover to the line. The vigour of the contest also left Weir with a broken nose. Armstrong with a gashed head and Scott Hastings with a dead leg, though Scotland now rest for a month before their next commitment, against Ireland.

The try gave Scotland a 5-3 advantage at the interval. Penalties by the respective full backs sent quivers round the stadium, Callard's fourth giving England a 12-11 lead with five minutes remaining. Townsend's towering goal behind a lineout appeared decisive and the break by Bracken, as lively as he was long-suffering, for nothing when Andrew's drop at goal was charged down — by Townsend.

But at the last ruck Scotland could not keep hands off the ball, the offence for which the Lions were penalised in Christchurch, and up stepped Callard for his moment of glory. Never was a team more aptly sponsored: if Scotland did not have a Famous Grouse before, they have one now.

SCORERS: Scotland: Try: Wainwright. Penalty goals: G Hastings (2) Dropped goal: Townsend England: Penalty goals: Callard (5).

TEAMS

SCOTLAND: A G Hastings (Watsonians, captain), A G Stanger (Hawick), S Hastings (Watsonians), D S Wyllie (Stewart's Melville FP), K M Logan (Stirling County), G P J Townsend (Gala), G Armstrong (Jed-Forest); A V Sharp (Bristol), K S Milne (Heriot's FP), A P Burnell (London Scottish), P Walton (Northampton), D S Munro (Glasgow High/Kelvinside), A I Reed (Bath), R I Wainwright (Edinburgh Academicals), G W Weir (Melrose). Wainright replaced by I R Smith (Gloucester, 67min). S Hastings replaced by I C Jardine (Stirling County 72). B W Redpath (Melrose) temporary replacement for Armstrong (49-51).

ENGLAND: J Callard (Bath), T Underwood (Leicester), W D C Carling (Harlequins, captain), P R de Glanville (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester/RAF) C R Andrew (Wasps), K Bracken (Bristol), J Leonard (Harlequins), B C Moore (Harlequins), V E Ubogu (Bath), J P Hall (Bath), M O Johnson (Leicester), M C Bayfield (Northampton), N A Back (Leicester), B B Clarke (Bath)

Referee: L L McLachlan (New Zealand)

Gavin Hastings despairs as defeat for Scotland looms. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Justice done but law and order absent

Rob Andrew, the England stand-off half, reflects on a triumph over limited tactics

Nobody should believe that Scotland were hard done by at Murrayfield on Saturday. If you live on the edge of the law, there will be times when you are caught out. The last-minute penalty from which Jonathan Callard kicked the winning goal was a case in point.

When that kick went over, I felt that justice had been done. For Scotland had tried to play a disruptive game in which they were constantly offside. They were offside at most of the high kicks they launched against us, at the lineouts and in the loose.

Callard's four second-half penalty goals confirmed how often they were on the wrong side of the ball and I was not surprised by a penalty count of 16 to seven in our favour. It should have been far more, but that is what you have to put up with against a side that gets a sniff of a scrappy win. Scotland's sole intention seemed to be to kick the ball up in the air.

When we had possession we looked dangerous and Scotland conceded penalties to stop us getting quick ball and scoring. If they are prepared to commit those offences, they have to suffer the consequences. Scotland could not argue that we did not deserve to win the game against those tactics and winning it with a penalty in the last minute was simply tough.

Scotland got away with such tactics for so long because of the leniency of the referee. We were unhappy with Lindsay McLachlan's performance and I believe there is something fundamentally wrong with the refereeing system. We have had so many chaotic games like this one against Scotland because southern hemisphere referees assist the side that wants to cause the mayhem. We have never done well with southern hemisphere referees in Edinburgh.

We have got to work with referees from the southern hemisphere, otherwise there is a danger of two separate games developing. But at the moment, there are two very different interpretations of the rules.

In the southern hemisphere, the view is that the game goes on regardless of whether there is a problem with breaking the laws. If the game is still going on, it does not matter if a player is diving on the floor — let it go. But that makes it much more difficult to structure an approach.

McLachlan is not the best referee in New Zealand. So the 15 best players available to Scotland and England did not have the best referee available. I am sure I am not alone in finding that strange. It is my view that the aim must be to give games to the best referees.

For all that, we did not play well. We did not take our chances, we made too many mistakes, lost the ball in contact situations too often and tried to go too far with the ball and lost our support, which allowed defenders to get between the ball carrier and his colleagues. We did not control any phase of the game.

The side has still got a lot to learn and a great deal to improve on. The good thing to come out of the match, apart from victory, was that we never panicked, even with a young side. Nobody was having a go at others in the team. We just stuck at it and it came right in the end.

The match was a reminder of exactly what the five nations' championship is all about. That we lost last season to Wales and Ireland and came so close to defeat on Saturday confirms how difficult it is to win this championship. It shows how good our performances were when we won the grand slam in 1991 and 1992.

Nothing went to plan on Saturday, unlike in those seasons and against New Zealand in November, when almost everything we did worked.

But Callard deserves immense praise for that final kick. In my view, those penalties, straight from 40 yards out, are the worst. Also the last kick of the game, it was a brilliant effort.

☐ *Interview with Peter Bills*

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

TOURCOING, France: IAAF world challenge cross-country: Men: 1, E Brok (Kenya) 30min 15sec; 2, J Kiprono (Kenya) 30:16; 3, P Guera (Por) 30:25; 4, S Turstall (GB) 30:27; 9, J Treacy (Ire) 38; 10, D Clarke (GB) 31. Women: 1, Z Pedrosa (Sp) 16min 17sec; 2, F Fates (Fr) 16:25; 3, J Negura (Rom) 16:26. GRENOBLE: Men's triple jump: L Volotchin (Rus) 17.77m (world indoor record)

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Hemel Hempstead 66 (Hooghiemstra 29, Iollen 16) Manchester 90 (Fitz 24, Samuels 18); Oldham 75 (Merrifield 29, Taylor 18) Birmingham 82 (Harrell 26, Simms 17, Allen 13), Sunderland 72 (Saunders 38) Guildford 85 (Cummings 18 Polcz 18) Thames Valley 93 (Lloyd 23 Holley 18); London Towers 76 (Moore 25, P Scamlebury 17), Worthing 104 (Irish 27 Hamed 26) Chester 96 (Casey 25, Book 21)

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Second division: Leicester 67 Northampton 63, Lewisham 76 Liverpool 79, Mid Sussex 118 London Elephants 84, Nottingham 67 Swindon 63 Stevenage 102 Chatham 94

MEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Semi-final: Plymouth 87 Crystal Palace 74

WOMEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Semi-final: Sunderland 31 London Heat 55

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Thames Valley 63 Northampton 79; Barking and Dagenham 71 Sheffield 79

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Friday: San Antonio 100 Boston 91, Miami 124 Charlotte 118 Indiana 114 Minnesota 93, Milwaukee 98 Orlando 92 Washington 102 Philadelphia 95, Atlanta 114 New York 102 Seattle 108 Detroit 84, Los Angeles Lakers 95 Dallas 87, Chicago 101 Golden State 99, Denver 108 Sacramento 83 Saturday: Cleveland 109 Atlanta 93, Detroit 100 New Jersey 107, Indiana 111 Charlotte 102, Miami 94 Philadelphia 96; Milwaukee 94 Seattle 115, Utah 128 Portland 114; Los Angeles Clippers 122 Sacramento 110

BOWLS

NOTTINGHAM: EIBA Champion of Champions: Quarter-finals: J Leeman (Stanley) 21 L Gillett (Chapping Norton) 19, M Iung (Pinewood Park) 21 G Little (Cambridge Park) 5, R Hitchen (Huddersfield) 21 S Stevens (Exonia) 12 J Ottaway (Wymondham Dell) 21 I McMillan (East Dorset) 13. Semi-finals: King 21 Leeman 10; Hitchen 21 Ottaway 20. Final: King 21 Hitchen 4

NOTTINGHAM: Manchester Unity Under-25 singles: Quarter-finals: S Farish (Cumbria) 21 P Gandey (Preston) 15, K Cousins (Five Rivers) 21 G Hatherall (Westbourne) 13 N Corbyn (Rushden) 21 G Shadwell (Came Dunbar) 8, M Mills (British Cellophane) 21 N Frostick (Lincoln) 7. Semi-finals: Cousins 21 Farish 15; Mills 21 Corbyn 18. Final: Cousins 21 Mills 6

BOXING

BERLIN: WBO super-middleweight championship: Chris Eubank (Brighton holder) bt Graciano Rocchigiani (Ger) pts

PANAMA CITY: WBA junior flyweight championship: Leo Gamez (Ven, holder) bt Juan Torres (Pan) rsc 7th rnd

CRICKET

TOUR MATCHES: Napier: New Zealand XI 93 Pakistan 485-8 (Saeed Anwar 114, Basit Ali 100). Chandigarh: Sri Lankans 341-7 dec and 187-5 dec. Punjab 234-3 dec and 86-2. Match drawn

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney: Western Australia 379 (T Moody 115) and 135 (G Robertson 5-71). New South Wales 409 (M Slevin 203 not out) and 106-1. New South Wales won by 9 wickets

RED STRIPE CUP: Port of Spain: Trinidad and Tobago 435 (B Lara 206, K Mason 63, P Simmons 62, A Cummins 4-92). Barbados 83-0. Kingston: Windward Islands 122 (C Walsh 5-21), Jamaica 97-2

GOLF

LAKE WORTH, Florida: Palm Beach Classic: Second round (US unless stated): 134: L Davies (GB) 69, 65. L Waters 66, 68. 138: D Gee-Jones 67, 69. 137: D Mochrie 70, 67. P Bradley 68, 69. 139: L Mentlen 71, 67, J Stephenson (Aus) 70, 68, T Kendye 68, 70. 139: A Read 72, 67. J Lehback (Peru) 70, 69. C Figg-Currier 70, 69. J Pelcock 69, 70

NAIROBI: Kenya Open: Third round: 205: P Carman (Eng) 67, 70, 68. G Ralph (Eng) 69, 67, 69. 209: P Naru (Ken) 70, 68, 71. P Hampton (Eng) 69, 71, 70. 210: C Mahmun (Scot) 72, 66, 70. M Litton (Wales) 67, 73, 71. 211: D Westermark (Swe) 70, 72, 70. 212: D Jones (N Ire) 69, 74, 69; A Rogers (Eng) 70, 72, 69

MBABANE, Swaziland: Men's tournament: Final scores (US unless stated): 274: O Uresti 65, 73, 68, 68. 276: A Pete 69, 68, 72, 67. 277: W Westner (SA) 72, 65, 68, 71. 278: D Robinson 66, 69, 74, 69. S Dunlap 69, 71, 66, 72. 279: J Bland (SA) 70, 71, 70, 68. J Beaver 71, 68, 67, 73

CYCLING

TIME-TRIALS: GS Stella (Furnington, West Sussex, 10m): 1, S Elms (East Grinstead CC), 54min 33sec (course record). 2, M Murray (Brighton Excelsior CC) 1hr 2min 33sec. 3, R Kowal (GS Stella) 1 03 10. Team: Brighton Excelsior CC, 3 13 48. Kettering Friendly CC (Brigstock, Northamptonshire, 20 miles): equal 1, D Sweeney (Invicta RC) and R Hungerman (VC York) 45 12. 3, A Allen (Team Hinckley) 45 16. Team: Invicta RC, 2 17 29

CYCLO-CROSS: Giant Bicycles Supercross (Sheffield, 7.5 miles): 1, C Young (PCA) 52:35. 2, R Thackray (Bradford Olympic RC) at 30sec. 3, L Mosley (Aykem CC) at 1min 30sec. Oxoman CC (Great Haseley, 14 miles): 1, M Bell (London Fire Brigade CC) 1:00:15. 2, M Lloyd (Dedicat Progreso) at 1:14. 3, V Stone (Salisbury RC) at 2:45. Beeston RC (Bramcote Park, Nottingham, 10 miles): 1, T Gould (Team Schwinn) 49:10. 2, J Taylor (Beeston RC) at 1:04. 3, D Barnett (Ace RT) at 1:12. Final overall placings (Notts and Derbys League): 1, M Seddon (Ace RT) 532 pts. 2, A Millett (Brook CC) 498. 3, D Barnett, 444. Hadlee RC (Tunstall Hall, Sunderland 10 miles): 1, V Potter (Bradford Olympic RC) 1:10:00. 2, A Moorhouse (Bradford Olympic RC) at 7:00. 3, J Davison (Tyne Tharsten Club) at 8:00. Liverpool Mercury RC (Newburgh, Lancashire, 12 miles): 1, K Duckworth (Den CC) 57:03. 2, I Sidebottom (Crag MBC). Bury at 12sec. 3, S Green (Oldham Century RC) at 58sec. Relax RC (Leicester, 8 miles): 1, D Barnett (Ace RT) 43:05. 2, S Knight (Halesowen A and C) at 2:15. 3, C Thompson (CC Romford) at 2:20. Abergavenny RC (10 miles): 1, J Allen (Extreme CC) 55:30. 2, A Baum (Swansea CC) at 2:05. 3, M Hughes (Dewch i Swansea CC) at 3:30

HOCKEY

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Fifth round: Bromley 1 Havant 2, East Grinstead 1 Hounslow 3, Old Loughtonians 5 Bournville 1

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: Saturday: First division: St Albans 0, Southgate 4. Yesterday: Bromley 1 Hounslow 5, Cannock 1, Teddington 2, Canterbury 0, Southgate 3; East Grinstead 4, Reading 2, Havant 3, Bournville 0. Indoor Gymkhana 1, Firebrands 1, Old Loughtonians 5, Slough 2, Stourport 2, St Albans 2, Wirral 2. Women's 3, Second division, Brockands 1, Cheltenham 2; Cambridge City 2, Beeston 3, Bedfordshire 3, Warrington 1, Gloucester City 2, Surbiton 2, Guildford 5, Neston 0, Harborne 1, Harlequin Magpies 1, Oxford University 2, Loss 1, Richmond 3, Doncaster 0, Sheffield 1, Barford Tigers 1

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 0 Bedford 0, Bury St Edmunds 1 Wendover 1, Cromer 4 Chelmsford 1, Dereham 1 Colchester 0, Luton 0 Ipswich 3, Norwich City 2 Redhedge and Ward 3, Pelicans 3 Welwyn Garden City 2, Peterborough Town 2 Blueharts 3, Stevenage 1 Cambridge University 4

ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper 2 Bloxwich 2, Finchfield 0 Olton and West Warwick 2, Lichfield 0 Hampton in Arden 1, Leicester Westleigh 2 Khalsa 1, Worcester Norton 1 Coventry and North Warwick 1.

ERNST AND YOUNG NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Alderley Edge 0 Timperley 1, Blackburn 0 Ben Rhydding 4, Formby 8 Durham Univ 1, Highfown-Northern 3 York 1, Southport 0 Norton 3

NASTRO AZZURRO SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: City of Portsmouth 2 Spencer 1, Dulwich 2 Gore Court 1, Hendon 0 Staines 6, Lyons 2 Tulse Hill 0, Maidenhead 2 Old Kingstonians 1, Old Walcountians 0 Hampstead and Westminster 2, Oxford Hawks 2 Fareham 1, Wimbledon 1 Chichester 1, Winchester 2 Anchorians 3

Women

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Second division: Sunderland Bedans 2 Harlequin Magpies 0

EAST SUPER LEAGUE: Beaconsfield 2 Cambridge City 1, Hemel Hempstead 3 St Albans 4, Redbridge 2 Sevenoaks 1, Welwyn Garden City 0 Sandown 6

SOUTH WALES LEAGUE: Old Howardians 0 St Fagans 3, Porthcawl 1 Cwmbran 1

CRYSTAL PALACE: English women's indoor championships: Clubs. Group A: Chelmsford 5 Sutton Coldfield 3; St Austell 0 Ealing 5, Hightown 5 Chesmsford 3; Sutton Coldfield 6 St Austell 1, Hightown 4 Ealing 3; Chelmsford 3 St Austell 0, Sutton Coldfield 1 Hightown 3, Ealing 3 Chelmsford 4. Group B: Ipswich 1 Slough 5, Leicester 2 Doncaster 0, Green Dragons 2 Ipswich 7, Slough 5 Leicester 4, Green Dragons 0 Doncaster 3 Ipswich 4 Leicester 1, Slough 10 Green Dragons 1, Doncaster 1 Ipswich 4

Schools: Semi-finals: Gordano Ponshead 1 Bromsgrove 1 (0-1 on penalties) Dame Alice Harpur 2 St Wilfrid's Boriase 1. Final: Dame Alice Harpur 1 Bromsgrove 1 (2-1 on penalties)

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship

Ireland 15 Wales 17

Ireland: Pens: Elwood 5. Wales: Try: N Jenkins. Pens: N Jenkins 4

Scotland 14 England 15

Scotland. Try: Wainwright. Pens: G Hastings 2. Dropped goal: Townsend. England: Pens: Callard 5

International match

Italy A 9 England A 15

Italy: Pens: Filisetti 3. England A: Tries: Aspatori, Sheridan. Con: Challinor. Pen: Challinor

CIS County Championship

Semi-final

Cornwall 9 Durham 14

Cornwall. Pens: Sheehan 2. Dropped goal: Chapman. Durham: Try: McKinnon. Pen: Bland. Dropped goals: Bland 2

Courage Clubs Championship

Third division

Richmond 29 Fylde 27

Richmond. Tries: Catt, Hoad. Cons: Hoad 2. Pens: Hoad 4. Dropped goal: Miller. Fylde: Tries: Gough, O'Toole. Sheard. Cons: Parker 3. Pens: Parker 2

Postponed: Havant v Redruth

Club matches

Bedfordshire	30	L Irish	15
Birmingham	21	W Hartlepool	10
Burnham On	24	Tynedale	27
Edinburgh Acad	29	L Scottish	18
Exeter	7	Vale of Lune	23
Kingsbury	12	Schwiz	8
Lydney	25	Torquay Ath	14
Mid Sussex	22	Havant	34
Morpeth	49	Rosslyn Pk	16
Nottingham	43	Harlequins	11
Nottingham	13	Gloucester XV	23
Orrell	16	Sale	3
Stourbridge	24	Camp Hill	10
Wasps	51	Stroud	13
Waterloo	40	Liverpool St H	9
Waterloo	5	Stoke-on-Trent	21
Worcester	22	Birmingham	19

UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: Ireland 5 Wales 27

Yesterday

International match

Spain 17 England SP 86

Spain: Tries: Vidal, Jaime Gutierrez. Cons: Planas 2. Pen: Planas. England Emerging Players: Tries: Childs (2), Eves (2), Lumsden (2), Greenwood, Harris, Thompson, Sanders, Thorneycroft, Dallaglio, O'Leary. Cons: Harris (3). Pen: Harris

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Sheffield 4 Fife 3, Humberside 7 Cardiff 13, Nottingham 6 Bracknell 3; Sheffield 8 Murrayfield 6, Whitley Bay 7 Peterborough 6. First division: Cleveland 4 Medway 8, Dumfries 8 Slough 13; Milton Keynes 14 Blackburn 6, Romford 6 Paisley 4, Swindon 8 Lee Valley 7, Telford 24 Oxford 2, Trafford 7 Solihull 5

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Pittsburgh 6 Detroit 3; Buffalo 7 Florida 2; New Jersey 5 Ottawa 2; Montreal 4 Washington 0; Winnipeg 2 Hartford 2 (OT); Chicago 3 Edmonton 1; Anaheim 3 Vancouver 0. Saturday: Boston 4 Philadelphia 0; Quebec 2 New York Islanders 3; New Jersey 7 Pittsburgh 3, Washington 6 Tampa Bay 3; Ottawa 3 Montreal 4; Toronto 3 Detroit 4; St Louis 4 San Jose 3, Los Angeles 4 Calgary 5 (OT).

LACROSSE

MEN'S FLAGS: Semi-final: Cheadle 21 Sale 6

BERKHAMSTED: Women's territorial reserves championships: 1, South, 2, North; 3, Combined Universities; 4, Midlands; 5, West; 6 East

NETBALL

FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN ASSOCIATIONS LEAGUE: England 50 Scotland 21

ENGLISH COUNTIES LEAGUE: Second division: Humberside 45 West Yorkshire 57, East Dorset 48 Derbyshire 56, Kent 46 Nottinghamshire 56, Hertfordshire 44 Cheshire 48. Third division: Warwickshire 43 South Durham 41, Gloucestershire 54 West Devon 31, Lancashire 50 Sussex 48, Northamptonshire 39 South Yorkshire 40.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Lacoste British Open championship: Second round: R Henman bt N Pendrigh 17-14, 15-12, 11-15, 15-11; A Robinson bt J Eason 15-0, 15-3, 15-0; P Nicholls bt A Smith-Bingham 13-18, 15-5, 15-8 15-0; T Cockroft bt R Mason 15-1, 15-3, 15-1, M Nicholls bt G Hewitt 15-2, 15-7, 15-2, M Windows bt K Walker 15-5, 15-6 15-2; P Brake bt G Barker 15-12, 15-10, 5-15, 15-7, J Prenn bt R Walkely 16-17, 15-4, 11-15, 15-4, 15-11, D Johnson bt A Orchard 7-15, 15-8, 15-8, 8-15, 15-5, P Maxwell bt C Green 13-15, 15-10 15-2, 15-8, R Owen-Browne bt S Sherkenen 15-3, 7-15, 15-11, 15-2.

REAL TENNIS

HAMPTON COURT: George Wimpey British mixed doubles championship: Quarter-finals: M Allen and B Clive bt B Bidouze (Fr) and W Maltby 5-2, 5-2. M Briggs and J Fletcher bt S Herbert and P Jarvis 4-3, 5-4, 5-2; M Happell and M Ward bt L Ronaldson and D Reid 5-3, 5-2; S Mpantosh and T Warburg bt A Garside and R Skinner 5-3, 5-0.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OLD BOYS COMPETITION: Semi-finals: Radley (J Snow and M Drysdale) bt Canford (C Barraclough and P Patterson) 6-0, 6-1; Charterhouse (N Pendrith and J Acheson-Gray) bt Winchester (A Lovell and P Seabrook) 6-1, 6-3. Final: Radley bt Charterhouse 6-3, 6-5

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's first division: Tooting 3 Whitefield 0; Wessex 3 Leeds 0; Ealing 3 Newcastle (Staffs) 1; Liverpool 0 Lewisham 3.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

Featherstone 11 Bradford 13

Featherstone: Try: Butt. Goals: Maloney 3. Dropped goal: Maloney. Bradford: Tries: Sheford, Watson. Goals: Fox 2. Dropped goal: Fox. Att: 4,659

Hull KR 20 Wakefield 28

Hull KR: Tries: Sodje 2, Chatfield. Goals: M Fletcher 4. Wakefield: Tries: Fuller 2, Conway, Spencer, Woods. Goals: Paul 4. Att: 3,020

Leeds 22 Salford 16

Leeds: Tries: Cook, Hanley, Ho, Mercer. Goals: Horrocks 3. Salford: Tries: Critchley, Marsden. Goals: Blakeley 4. Att: 8,125

Leigh 10 Halifax 32

Leigh: Tries: Baldwin, D Hill. Goal: Baldwin. Halifax: Tries: Divorty, Fieldhouse, Hallas, Lay, Perrett, Schuster. Goals: Schuster 4. Att: 3,371

Sheffield 28 Oldham 14

Sheffield: Tries: Dand Fraisse 2, McGuire, Sheridan. Goals: Aston 6. Oldham: Tries: Abram 2, Lidyard. Goal: Kemy. Att: 3,415.

St Helens 33 Castleford 12

St Helens: Tries: Griffiths 2, Martyn, Pickavance, Sullivan, Vievers. Goals: P Loughlin 4. Dropped goal: Martyn. Castleford: Tries: Anderson, Middleton. Goals: Crooks 2. Att: 7,605.

Warrington 22 Hull 8

Warrington: Tries: Derbyshire, Forster, Mackey, Penny. Goals: Harris 3. Hull: Try: Hasler. Goals: Eastwood 2. Att: 5,261.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Warrington	20	16	0	4	427	256	32
Bradford	19	16	0	3	509	359	32
Wigan	16	14	0	2	466	338	28
Castleford	19	12	1	6	455	294	25
Halifax	20	11	2	7	428	340	24
St Helens	20	11	1	8	418	349	23
Leeds	20	10	1	9	402	363	21
Featherstone	19	10	1	8	395	391	21
Sheffield	20	9	1	10	430	481	19
Widnes	19	9	0	10	332	385	18
Hull	19	7	2	10	393	313	16
Salford	20	8	0	12	360	421	16
Wakefield	19	6	0	13	256	409	12
Hull KR	20	6	0	14	310	506	12
Oldham	20	4	0	16	341	438	8
Leigh	20	1	1	18	244	525	3

Second division

Barrow	23	Doncaster	21
Bramley	14	Swinton	18
Dewsbury	12	Keighley	6
Hunslet	12	Whitehaven	38
London Crus	10	Huddersfield	24
Rochdale	24	Batley	12
Ryedale York	40	Highfield	16
Workington	23	Carlisle	16

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Workington	19	15	1	3	458	201	31
Huddersfield	19	14	0	5	453	330	28
Dewsbury	17	12	1	4	512	213	25
Keighley	17	12	0	5	488	227	24
Doncaster	18	12	0	6	409	365	24
Ryedale York	19	11	1	7	416	311	23
London Crus	17	10	1	6	415	330	21
Batley	18	10	1	7	327	323	21
Whitehaven	19	8	4	7	353	275	20
Rochdale	19	10	0	9	418	360	20
Barrow	19	9	1	9	386	473	19
Carlisle	18	7	0	11	336	469	14
Swinton	18	6	0	12	311	429	12
Hunslet	19	2	1	16	268	512	5
Highfield	18	1	1	16	198	688	3
Bramley	18	1	0	17	237	455	2

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Leigh MW 7 Chorley 15; Nottingham City 0 Hemel Hempstead 44; Saddleworth 88 Blackpool 2

SYDNEY: World Sevens: Pool A: St George 20 Penrith 12; Penrith 18 Balmain 14. Pool B: Western Suburbs 24 Illawarra 22; Newcastle 22 Brisbane 18. Pool C: Fiji 14 Papua New Guinea 8; Papua New Guinea 20 South Africa 12. Pool D: New Zealand 16 France 10, New Zealand 20 United States 12. Pool E: Eastern Suburbs 20 Parramatta 12, South Sydney 16 Canterbury-Bankstown 14. Pool F: Manly-Warringah 16 Gold Coast 8, Cronulla 18 North Sydney 12. Pool G: Tonga 28 Russian Combination 4, Russian Combination 12 Japan 8. Pool H: Canberra 14 Great Britain 8; Western Samoa 8 Canberra 4. Quarter-finals: St George 18 Newcastle 10; Fiji 28 New Zealand 16; Manly-Warringah 14 Eastern Suburbs 10, Western Samoa 10 Tonga 8. Semi-finals: St George 28 Fiji 22; Manly-Warringah 20 Western Samoa 16. Final: Manly-Warringah 44 St George 12. Trophy (for pool runners-up). Final: Canberra 28 Papua New Guinea 22. Plate (for pool third-placed teams): Final: Great Britain 24 Bahrain 22.

SKIING

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, Germany: Men's World Cup: Slalom: 1, A Tomba (It) 1min 32.47sec; 2, T Fogdoe (Swe) 1:33.58; 3, J Kosir (Slovenia) 1:34.21; 4, P Roth (Ger) 1:34.41; 5, A Bittner (Ger) 1:34.73; 6, B Gstren (Austria) 1:34.79; 7, L Kjus (Nor) 1:34.87; 8, T Sykora (Austria) 1:34.88; 9, T Stangassinger (Austria) 1:34.90; 10, F Tescari (It) 1:34.98. Overall: World Cup: 1, K A Aamodt (Nor) 1,097pts; 2, Tomba 764; 3, Girardelli 747; 4, G Mader (Austria) 723; 5, Kjus 490. British placings: 110, M Bell 24; 111, G Bell 22. Slalom: 1, Tomba 540; 2, Stangassinger 452; 3, Kosir 421.

SIERRA NEVADA, Spain: Women's World Cup: Slalom: 1, V Schneider (Switz) 1min 41.30sec; 2, P Wiberg (Swe) 1:42.68; 3, D Compagnoni (It) 1:42.70; 4, G Zingre (Switz) 1:43.06; 5, M Gallizio (It) 1:43.64; equal 6, L Piccard (Fr), A Donzan (Slovenia) 1:43.73; 8, B Perez (It) 1:43.84; equal 9, C von Grünigen (Switz), M Ertl (Ger) 1:43.85. Super-giant slalom: 1, H Genz (Ger) 1min 47.80sec; 2, I Kostner (It) 1:48.30; 3, K Gutenechn (Ger) 1:48.91; 4, W Zelenskaya (Russ) 1:49.02; 5, H Zurbriggen (Switz) 1:49.03; 6, U Stangassinger (Ger) 1:49.14; 7, R Cavagnoud (Fr) 1:49.22; 8, B Perez (It) 1:49.25; 9, M Gerety (US) 1:49.25; 10, K Selzinger (Ger) 1:49.30. Overall: Slalom: 1, Schneider 660; 2, Wiberg 570; 3, U Hrovat (Slovenia) 310. Super-giant slalom: 1, Selzinger 236; 2, Perez 185; 3, Wiberg (Swe) 185. World Cup: 1, Schneider 1,210pts; 2, Wiberg, 1,209; 3, A Wachter (Austria) 898; 4, Compagnoni 782; 5, Selzinger 770.

TABLE TENNIS

CARDIFF: Welsh open championships (England unless stated). Men: Semi-final: D Douglas bt S Ward (Wales) 21-8, 21-16, J Taylor bt C Oldfield 21-18, 21-17. Women: Semi-finals: N Bogatyrjova (Russ) bt V Lee (Wales) 21-9, 22-20; H Lower bt N Williams (Wales) 21-12, 23-21.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions: Piste	Conditions: Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Obergurgl	85	125	good	varied	good	cloud	-3	5/2
(Fresh snow overnight has improved conditions).								
Schladming	40	150	good	crust	slushy	rain	7	6/2
(Snowing above 1,100 metres with rain in town)								
St Anton	50	270	good	varied	good	cloud	3	31/1
(Most pistes in good condition)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	125	220	good	varied	good	sun	0	26/1
(Generally good skiing)								
La Plagne	145	300	good	crust	good	fine	-6	26/1
(Fine weather and less wind; good skiing)								
Tignes	175	300	good	powder	good	fine	-9	5/2
(Perfect powder skiing and wonderful pistes)								
Val Thorens	140	300	good	varied	good	fine	-1	4/2
(Good skiing on well-groomed runs)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	60	180	fair	varied	fair	cloud	-2	26/1
(Good skiing in most areas on a firm base)								
Gstaad	25	80	good	varied	slushy	snow

Jenkins secures victory for Wales on day of contrasting fortunes for stand-off halves

Ireland pay heavy penalty for Elwood's lapse

Ireland 15
Wales 17

FROM GERALD DAVIES
IN DUBLIN

IN THE days when youthful exuberance was not interpreted as criminal intent, when ardent support was innocent and not an incitement to anti-social behaviour, a group of warm-blooded Welshmen returned to Twickenham by cover of darkness after an international and took down one of the crossbars.

They sawed it up and took the bits home. The deed was committed in recognition of the penalty goal which Terry Davies, the Welsh full back of the late Fifties, kicked earlier, the ball shaving the crossbar as it went over. This secured a draw in such improbable circumstances the supporters thought it fit for permanent memorial. It is said some village clubhouses still bear witness to this.

How, one wonders, would these aspiring carpenters have reacted at Lansdowne Road and what stunt would they have perpetrated upon the upright post at the South Terrace end after Wales's victory on Saturday? This piece of woodwork denied Eric Elwood a score that might have won the match for Ireland and helped to steer Wales to a triple crown decider at the scene of the do-it-yourself boys of 30 years ago.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	2	2	0	0	46	21	4
France	1	1	0	0	35	15	2
England	1	1	0	0	15	14	2
Ireland	2	0	0	2	30	52	0
Scotland	2	0	0	2	20	44	0

RESULTS: Jan 15: France 35 Ireland 15; Wales 29 Scotland 6. Feb 5: Ireland 15 Wales 17; Scotland 14 England 15.
REMAINING FIXTURES: Feb 19: Wales v France; England v Ireland. Mar 5: Ireland v Scotland; France v England. Mar 19: Scotland v France, England v Wales.

Alan Davies, the Wales coach, asked to what extent his plan had worked to secure his team's success, had to admit that nobody can plan for what happened in Dublin. There was no need to elaborate on any tactical intricacies. "Had Eric kicked the penalty," he said, "then probably Ireland would have won. You cannot prepare for something like that."

And the triple crown? Had he thought of that? "No," came the instant reply, guarding against others' expectation. On second thoughts: "Well, yes, actually. But first things first. A win against France would be the real treat."

Wales won by Jenkins's try and four penalty goals to Elwood's five penalty goals. On top of these, Elwood, the Ireland stand-off half, had missed two attempts at goal when a further opportunity presented itself three minutes after Jenkins had kicked Wales into the lead for the first time with ten minutes to go.

By his impeccable standards, this was a "sitter", as it was within the 22-metre line and barely left of the post. He struck it, his team began retreating to the half-way line in trusting but, as it turned out, premature anticipation. The ball rebounded off the post and safely into unpressurised Welsh hands. The threat was cleared.

Noel Murphy, the Ireland manager, on being asked for his explanation for his side's defeat, could say only that Wales ended up by putting more points on the board than his team. This self-evident point has rarely been so poignantly made. His exasperation at the unfairness of it all was understandable, as Elwood had done his bit until the critical moment.

It was an equal struggle, although the means by which each team hoped to achieve the end differed. Wales hoped, but only sometimes succeeded, to spread the ball in the threequarters, which their back row was likely to reach first, whereas Ireland relied on making headway through Elwood's delicate kicking. In the first half, Elwood found the space to force Clement and his wingers into hurried retreat, whereas Jenkins, usually so dependable, kicked too long or too short, which gave O'Shea ample time to recover.

DAVID DAVIES

Jenkins, left, the Wales stand-off, consoles his opposite number. Elwood, who missed a crucial penalty, at the end of the match at Lansdowne Road

Wales, for once, enjoyed parity at the lineout. Thus they controlled their own destiny and, once they took the lead, actually dominated this phase, particularly when the ball was thrown to the back. Phil Davies had another authoritative match. He was an influential figure as Wales camped on the Ireland line in the final ten minutes. They had no intention of retreating and giving Elwood a chance to make amends.

Both Hall, who made the vital run that led to the game's only try, and Evans, who had his customary run and chase, came close to scoring. Wales's recovery of Ireland drop-outs during this period was also significant in maintaining their momentum and further lowering the morale of the Irish.

The scoring was dominated by the two stand-off halves. After Elwood had punished Welsh errors in the first quarter, which gave Ireland a a lead of three penalty goals to Jenkins's one, Hall made his run. At the breakdown, the value of the quick return was grasped by Jenkins. Although his way was blocked by the towering Johns, he managed to find a path to the line.

Either side of half-time, Elwood added to his team's credit with two more penalty goals. But, while Jenkins will bask in the thought of his three second-half penalty goals, Elwood will forever be left to brood on his vital lapse.

SCORERS: Ireland. Penalty goals: Elwood (5). Wales: Try: N Jenkins. Penalty goals: N Jenkins (4)

IRELAND: C P O'Shea (Lansdowne), R M Wallace (Garryowen), M C McCall (Bangor), P P A Danaher (Garryowen), S P Geoghegan (London Irish), E P Elwood (Lansdowne), M T Bradley (Cork Constitution, captain), N J Popplewell (Greystones), T J Kingston (Dolphin), P M Clohessy (Young Munster), B F Robinson (Ballymena), M J Galwey (Shannon), N P J Francis (Old Belvedere), W D McBride (Malone), P S Johns (Dungannon)

WALES: A Clement (Swansea), I C Evans (Llanelli, captain), M R Hall (Cardiff), N G Davies (Llanelli) W T Proctor (Llanelli), N R Jenkins (Pontypridd), R H Moon (Llanelli), R L Evans (Llanelli), G R Jenkins (Swansea), J D Davies (Neath), E W Lewis (Llanelli), P T Davies (Llanelli), G O Llewellyn (Neath), M A Perego (Llanelli), L S Quinnell (Llanelli) Proctor replaced by S Hill (Cardiff, 42min), Clement replaced by M Rayer (Cardiff, 51), N G Davies replaced by R Jones (Swansea, 74)

Referee: A Spreadbury (England).

Inches between glory and defeat

SIMON BARNES
In Dublin

There is no doubt about it: rugby union has become a deeply peculiar game. It is two games in one, the first a game of wild physical frenzy, of mayhem and grace, the second a game of bloodless accuracy.

Saturday's game here between Ireland and Wales was as magnificent and as frank a physical conflict as you could wish for, but, at the last, it was decided by a piece of geometrical pedantry. Eric Elwood, the Irish stand-off half, had a penalty kick to win the game. It was a sitter and there was no doubt in anyone's mind about the outcome. But instead he hit the post.

Blessed Eric Elwood, whose nerveless kicking won the day against England last year, failed. He has now been demoted by a mere Venerable.

On Saturday, both sides were going for a celtic revival after years of dire results, but in the end, the revival depended entirely on the gap between posts. How straight are the damn things? Has anyone dropped a plum-line from the top? Had those long, slender uprights swayed or bent or warped?

Surely an inch more width near the top would have won it. The ball hit the post with a great slap: had the post possessed an inch more lean or bend or warp to the left, the ball would have bounced through instead of back and the Irish would have been saying they always knew they had it in them and the revival was most definitely on. And the Welsh would have been face to face with the falseness of their hopes.

But as things turned out, revived and relieved Wales are daring to dare again. "I haven't thought about the triple crown," their coach, Alan Davies, announced, adding: "That's a lie. I have been thinking about it." It is the first time since 1988 that Wales have won two five nations' games in a row.

But Ireland have lost two iff a row and, alas, that is a familiar enough sensation. Poor Elwood — lauded, rightly, for his big-match temperament, his unflappability, his uncanny cool under extreme pressure, the man who has scored every single one of Ireland's points this season, a man who classically must have thought international rugby an easy game — he must now face a queasy fortnight of self-examination.

Was it technique or nerves that failed him? The two are inextricable. That moment, that dreadful stadium-filling slap of ball against post, will stay with him.

It's all part of rugby union's increasingly bizarre nature. It is as if cricket were reduced to a loosely-policed brawl, punctuated by moments when one side bowled at unprotected stumps.

The rhythm of rugby union has become extraordinary, a rapid alternation of hot and cold emotions, a strange blend of confrontation and lonely, aloof single-person skills. A mixture of boxing and golf.

Increasingly, the weight of the game must be carried by the kicker. Every effort, every snarl, every bruise of the 14 other men count for nothing if the kicker is deserted by his silent, self-enclosed skills.

For the Welsh, Neil Jenkins, like Elwood, scored all his side's points, but one of them was an altogether unusual form of scoring called a try. Apparently you get five points if you carry the ball across the line and put it on the ground. It'll never catch on.

Jenkins has developed his own place-kicking technique into a weird, neurotic ritual that involves staring the ball into submission, twitching a bit, making a valedictory jerk of the right arm and only then applying hoof to ball. It all takes an age. He missed seven kicks in the corresponding fixture last year: he hit four on Saturday. Elwood landed five, but missed three and so the game turned.

The game also turned on refereeing. Rugby union laws depend on personal interpretation and shades of meaning. Don't worry if you find the rules impossibly arcane and close to incomprehensibility. Most of the players are in the same position.

Strange anomalies, ironies and injustices haunt rugby union — but that, in an odd way, enriches it. The strange course the game has taken places the kicker under a degree of pressure unique in a team game: as fascinating to observe as it must be uncomfortable to experience. Alas, poor Eric.

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England A fail to impress

Italy A 9
England A 15

FROM BRYAN STILES
IN PIACENZA, ITALY

THE Italians were jubilant in defeat; England were subdued in victory. The reversal of normal reactions here on Saturday was understandable after this ragged display by England had almost presented Italy with their first victory over them at this level.

This uncomfortably close encounter was marred by the interpretations of the lineout laws by Ian Rogers, the South African referee. Rogers was particularly strict on the way the England forwards went across the lineout. It presented Italy with points and large tracts of territory that had been won the hard way by England's forwards.

It also blunted the efforts of the lineout partnership of Nigel Redman and Andy Blackmore, on which so much store had been placed. Redman had been a splendid provider for the senior team in the historic win over New Zealand in November. Most of the possession they did get was scrappy and ideal for the foraging Italian loose forwards.

With the England pack spluttering, few backs were able to enhance their reputations. Paul Hull, the Bristol full back, was an exception. He was sound under pressure and inventive in attack, while Stuart Potter and Damien Hopley had their moments in the centre.

It was left to Adedayo Adebayo to round off the best move of the match. It came in the twelfth minute with the score at 3-3 following a penalty goal apiece from Gabriele Filizzol and Paul Challinor.

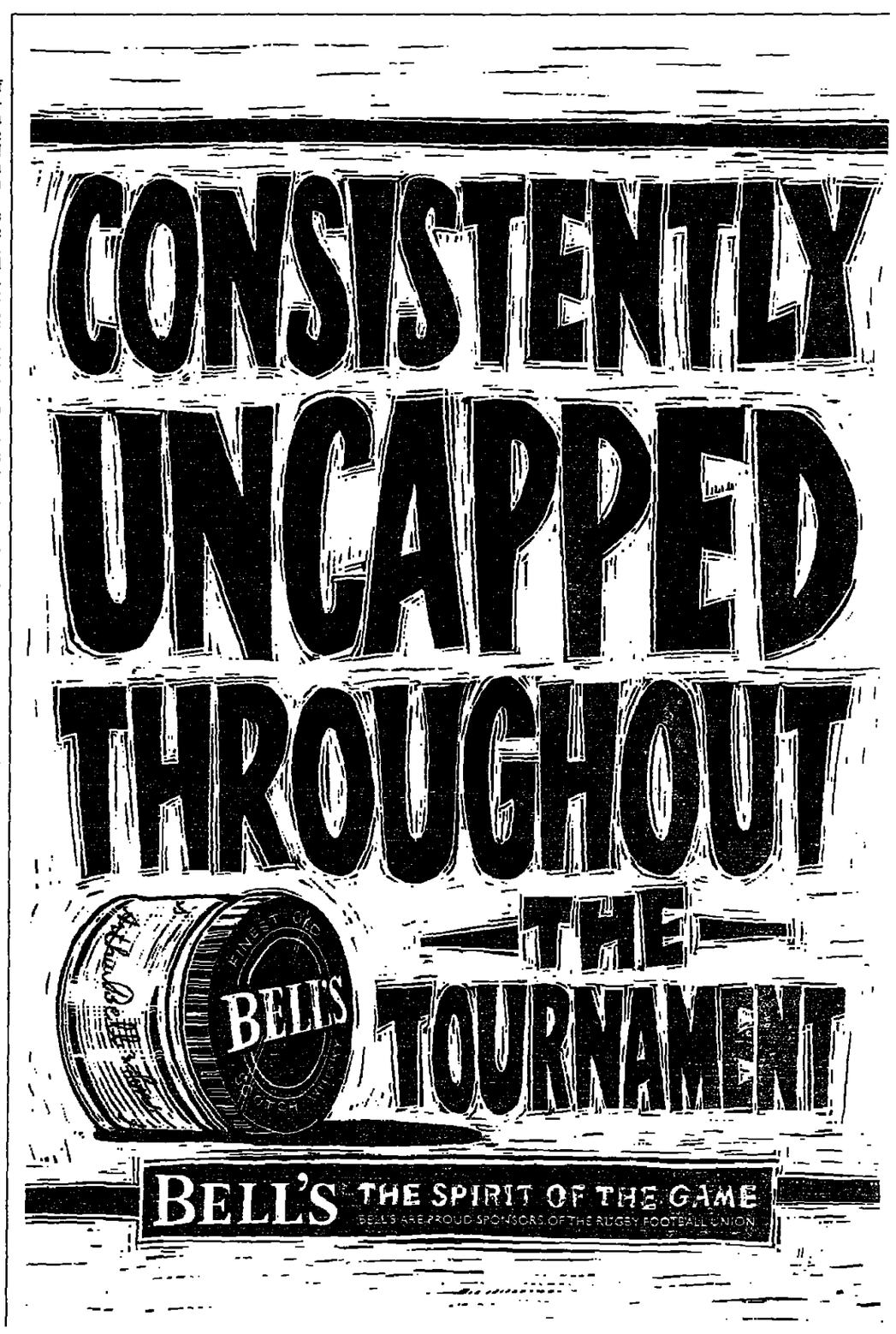
Challinor converted and Filizzola kicked his second penalty to give England a 10-6 lead at the interval. Filizzola kicked another penalty early in the second half but in the sixtieth minute Challinor set up the decisive score with a huge kick to the corner. Redman won the lineout to set up a rolling maul from which Chris Sheasby scored a try.

SCORERS: Italy A: Penalty goals: Filizzola (3). England A: Tries: Adebayo Sheasby Conversion: Challinor Penalty goal: Challinor.

ENGLAND A (v Italy) P Hull (Bristol); A Adebayo (Bath), D Hopley (Wasps), S Potter (Leicester), N Beal (Northampton); P Challinor (Harlequins), M Dawson (Northampton); C Clark (Bath), K Dunn (Wasps), A Mullins (Harlequins), C Sheasby (Harlequins), N Redman (Bath), A Blackmore (Bristol), R Jenkins (London Irish), D Ryan (Wasps, captain). Blackmore replaced by D Sims (Gloucester, 53min).

ITALY A: S Ferrie; R Croci, N Aldovardi, G Filizzola, M Gerosa, S Brolis, I Francescato, M Dalse, M Travisol, F Properzi Mi Capuzzoni, D Scaglia, D Sesenna, O Arancio, G Cucino

Referee: I Rogers (South Africa).



Faldo displaced at head of rankings

Norman on top of the world after Thailand triumph

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN PHUKET, THAILAND

YOU have to hand it to Greg Norman. He has courage and he can play a bit, too. Norman hunted Ernie Els to the end in Dubai, despite taking five different pills daily for varying health problems.

Then the Open champion, after falling ill here early in the week with fluid in his right lung, rose from his sickbed to capture the Johnnie Walker Classic. In doing so, Norman displaced Nick Faldo as No 1 in the Sony world rankings, ending the Briton's record 81-week reign.

Norman came to the 72nd hole at the Blue Canyon Country Club tied with Fred Couples, the overnight leader, who was in the match behind. Both were ten under par and Norman had a slight edge in that he had parred the difficult 221-yard 17th while Couples still had to play it.

Norman looked completely focused, wearing his signature black straw hat and one of those garish multi-coloured shirts that look as though they are the result of an explosion in an artist's studio. He was hitting the ball strongly, his health was improving, his mind was clear.

You could see he was feeling better not just by his scores but by the the way he looked. A little more colour came to his cheeks with each passing day and the darkness under his eyes began to disappear. He was hell-bent on justifying his enormous appearance money, estimated at $300,000 (£200,000), and proving his own evaluation that he was hitting the ball exceptionally well.

He struck a near-perfect pitching wedge to ten feet and holed the putt for a birdie that took him to 11 under par. Then he stood in a greenside tent, jauntily talking to tournament officials, while Couples attempted to birdie the hole and force a play-off.

Couples's approach, played with a wedge, was 20 feet short of the flag, and spun back to the fringe, from where he two-putted. That was just one example of Couples's poor wedge play, which cost him the chance to win. Six times he used his wedge on the back nine and not once did he get the ball close enough to putt once.

Bernhard Langer finished third, two strokes behind Norman. His chance disappeared when he took five on the par-three 14th, hitting his ball into the water. Typically courageous birdies on the next two holes hauled him closer to the leaders but then he three-putted the 17th.

Ian Woosnam also found water on the 14th, a tricky short hole where the tee is 50 feet above the green, when he was the joint leader with Couples. He contrived a four after a good pitch-and-run but could not hole a putt thereafter. Two poor pitches on the 18th, after his second shot had flown over the green by ten yards, meant he finished with a 73, his worst round of the week.

If any one of Couples, Langer or Woosnam had approached Norman's scoring over the last two days, they would have run away with the event. Norman was 12 under par for his last two rounds. He loves deep-sea fishing and he reeled in his rivals as if they were marlin.

He was nine strokes behind after the first round, seven after the second and one after the third, the round that formed the bedrock of his victory. As he so often does, he overpowered the course with his strength and accuracy, setting a course record of 64 in that round to trail Woosnam and Couples by one stroke.

Norman will play at least three events in Europe this season — the Open, the Lancôme and the Scottish Open — "if I'm invited". There is little chance he will not be, because that event, played at Gleneagles, is sponsored by Bell's, a subsidiary of United Distillers, Johnnie Walker's parent company.

SCORES

LEADING FINAL SCORES (GB and Ire unless stated): 277: G Norman (Aus) 75, 70, 64, 68. 278: F Couples (US) 68, 72, 70, 70. 279: B Langer (Ger) 68, 70, 71, 70. 281: I Woosnam 68, 72, 68, 73. 282: M Harwood (Aus) 71, 72, 69, 70. 283: C Montgomerie 70, 72, 71, 70; Hsieh Chin-sheng (Taiwan) 70, 69, 70, 74. 284: D Feherty 69, 71, 73, 71; F Minozzi (Phil) 72, 74, 67, 71. 285: P Fulke (Swe) 74, 70, 72, 69; S Struver (Ger) 77, 70, 69, 69; I Aoki (Japan) 70, 71, 71, 73. 286: F Nobilo (NZ) 77, 69, 70, 70; D W Basson (SA) 72, 73, 71, 70; R Stewart (Can) 75, 72, 68, 71. 287: E Els (SA) 71, 73, 74, 69; J Van de Velde (Fr) 72, 72, 72, 71; P Senior (Aus) 71, 73, 70, 73.

APICHART WEERAWONG

Norman follows the flight of his tee-shot on the 1st hole at Phuket

Norman to face federation disciplinary enquiry

Norman: scrutiny

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE commencement of disciplinary proceedings against Andy Norman, announced by the British Athletic Federation (BAF) on Saturday, is likely to calm the disquiet among the national governing body's member clubs, at least in the short term.

"I am sure it will satisfy their apprehensions and worries," Eric Shirley, a member of the BAF council that considered the Norman controversy on Saturday, said yesterday. It is the BAF's first significant public response to the Norman case.

The BAF has appointed David Pannick QC as the independent legal assessor for its enquiry into allegations that Norman, in a phone call last July to Cliff Temple, a coach and journalist, accused Temple of sexually harassing an athlete. Six months later Temple committed suicide, putting the BAF under pressure from athletes, the British Athletics Writers' Association, and Temple's club, Folkestone Athletic Club, to dismiss Norman.

"Neither I nor the BAF has come to any judgment at this stage," Professor Peter Radford, the BAF executive chairman, said on Saturday. He could offer no indication, he added, of how long such a judgment might take but the disquiet will grow again if there is seen to be no advance well before the BAF annual meeting on March 19.

"I intend to meet with Mr Norman and his legal advisers at the earliest practical date," Radford said. Shirley said: "It will have to be swift; it cannot be left hanging in the air for long. We have got to get on with running athletics."

Norman remains "on leave", though he is understood to have been busy at the BAF offices in Birmingham on at least one day last week. "The length of leave I cannot go into," Radford added.

The annual meeting is a chance for the clubs to register through the ballot box any disapproval they may have of the way this affair or any other matters of government have been conducted. Shirley, a former Olympic steeplechaser, is standing for election as chairman, nominated by the South of England Athletic Association. Radford vacated the chair when he was appointed to the professional staff as executive chairman.

"I have put myself up to be chairman to do my utmost to make sure that people are controlled and do their job in a way that I and my colleagues would be happy with," Shirley said.

After some uncertainty, it is now clear that it is Radford who will make the decision whether Norman stays or goes; however, in the event of disciplinary action, any appeal from Norman would be dealt with by the BAF management board.

"We have agreed to leave it in the hands of the executive chairman because it is his role to look after staff," Shirley said. Radford added: "The procedures I am following are the procedures laid down by council." One source said that the management board's anxieties had been heightened by a report in the *Daily Mail* last Friday, in which Norman is alleged to have told its athletics correspondent four months before Temple's suicide: "If there is anything I can do to push him over the edge I will."

Should he be dismissed, Norman, who has made no public statement since the controversy began, would not be short of offers. Probable options would include a job with the International Amateur Athletic Federation, helping South Africa in its drive to stage important events, and working as an independent agent. His methods may be under scrutiny but, for a man who gets results, there is always work.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Tomba in fine fettle for Lillehammer

ALBERTO Tomba produced an outstanding first leg to set up victory in the men's World Cup slalom in Garmisch-Partenkirchen yesterday, the last race before the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer, which start on Saturday. Tomba, winner of the corresponding event last year, was gaining his fourth success of the season, winning by more than a second on the steep Gudiberg piste.

The Italian opened a lead of 0.72sec when he covered the 58-gate first leg in 45.95sec and extended his advantage with 46.52 in the 62-gate second leg for a 1:32.47 aggregate, 1.11 ahead of the runner-up, Tomas Fogdoe, of Sweden.

The race was the first in Garmisch-Partenkirchen since Ulrike Maier died in a women's downhill on January 29 but was on a different slope from the one on which the Austrian former world champion lost her life. Tomba donated his prize-money of £12,000 to a new foundation named after Maier and set up to help those injured in skiing accidents.

Southgate go second

HOCKEY: The six points Southgate collected from away victories over St Albans (4-0) on Saturday and Canterbury (3-0) yesterday lifted them into second place in the Pizza Express National League.

Hounslow, the holders, Havant and Old Loughtonians reached the Hockey Association Cup quarter-finals on Saturday. Matthew Cross scored Havant's winner in a 2-1 victory at Bromley. Robert Crutchley netted two for Hounslow in the 3-1 win at East Grinstead and Neil Barker scored two for Old Loughtonians in a 5-1 home win over Bournville.

DRAW: Quarter-finals: Harrogate v Reading; Southgate v Hounslow; Teddington v Beeston, Old Loughtonians v Havant (matches to be played on February 13).

Devils on hot streak

ICE HOCKEY: With a third of the season to go, it is difficult to see anybody preventing Cardiff Devils from retaining their British League premier division title. A 12-7 win at Humberside Hawks on Saturday was their fifteenth in succession and, while the teams behind them keep beating each other, the Devils appear invincible. Despite the absence of two of their leading defencemen, Shannon Hope and Paul Heavey, the Devils' depth of talent enables them to stay on top. On Saturday, the local-born and trained Nicky Chinn led the way with three goals and three assists.

Lazio sell Doll

FOOTBALL: Paul Gascoigne's hopes of remaining in Italy rose last night when Lazio, his club, agreed to sell the German midfield player, Thomas Doll, to Eintracht Frankfurt, reducing Lazio's quota of foreign players from four to three. Scotland's hopes for the European championship in 1996 rose yesterday when it was agreed they would play their last three qualifying matches at home.

PROGRAMME: Sept 7, Finland away; Oct 12, Faeroe Islands home; Nov 16, Russia home; Dec 18, Greece away; March 29 1995, Russia away; April 26, San Marino away; June 7, Faeroe Islands away; August 16, Greece home; Sept 6, Finland home; Nov 15, San Marino home.

Brainin disqualified

TABLE TENNIS: Britain's uniquely strict stance on the use of toxic adhesives claimed its first international victim yesterday when Evgeni Brainin, of Russia, was disqualified from the Imperial Welsh Open at the National Sports Centre, Cardiff. Brainin allegedly freshly glued the rubber to the blade of his bat, but this has been banned by the British countries on health grounds. When Brainin, who is based in Shropshire, went on court to play his first match against Paul Giles, of Devon, his bat was inspected by Roy Williams, the umpire, who decided to report him.

Great Britain flop

RUGBY LEAGUE: Manly beat St George 44-12 in the final of the World Sevens tournament in Sydney yesterday. Great Britain were a disappointment, failing to reach the last eight. The event was open to all Australian professional clubs, scratch sides from the Test-playing nations, Britain, France, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, and teams from South Africa, Fiji, Western Samoa and Japan. The sponsor, Coca-Cola, was embarrassed when Matthew Ridge, the captain of Manly, who are sponsored by Pepsi, used the televised presentation ceremony to promote Pepsi.

THE TIMES

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Smith hits high note with record

BY DAVID POWELL

ONE good record deserves another, so, when "Are You Gonna Go My Way" by Lenny Kravitz was played through the speakers at the Wuppertal volleyball and basketball arena in Germany late on Friday evening, Steve Smith was ready. To the soft rock sounds of his favourite musician, Smith leapt to a British and Commonwealth indoor high jump record.

Smith, the young athlete from Liverpool who won world championship bronze medals indoors and out last year, was competing in a high jump-to-music competition. "I like Lenny Kravitz. I've got all his records," Smith said. Also in Smith's possession is the complete collection of significant British high jump records: he holds the best heights for juniors and seniors, indoors and out.

His clearance of 2.38 metres in Wuppertal was his highest of all, beating not only the indoor mark of 2.37 metres, which he set last year, but also his British and Commonwealth outdoor record of 2.37 metres, which he has achieved three times.

The aim is to join the 2.40 club, of which there are only eight members, before his 21st birthday. Not at one of the recognised centres of athletics excellence, but at Wavertree tennis centre, ten minutes' drive from his home, on February 24. Unlike most of Britain's indoor international athletes, Smith does not have the European championships listed as his primary competition of the winter.

"My main target is to jump well in the Liverpool meet," he said. Yes, high jumping to music is coming to one of the homes of pop, although The Beatles or Gerry and the Pacemakers probably will not get a look in. "I might have 'Ferry Across the Mersey'," Smith said. "Just kidding. I will probably have Lenny Kravitz again."

Although *Track and Field News*, the unofficial guardian of world rankings, rated Smith at No 2 in their 1993 end-of-year list, behind Javier Sotomayor, the Cuban world record-holder, the *Liverpool Echo* had him at No 3 in their sports poll. A footballer, inevitably, was No 1.

"If you are not playing football, other sports do not mean much here," Smith said. "We are trying to promote athletics in the north-west and give people a sense of what a big meet can be like."

According to the Wuppertal programme, Smith is "the young veteran". It was his fourth time there and the third time he had set a record. In 1991 it was a British junior indoor best of 2.27 metres, in 1993 a British and Commonwealth senior indoor record of 2.36 metres.

His 2.38 metres on Friday was important, though, for more than its record value: "I felt pressure to perform well because I wanted people to believe that, going into the Liverpool meet, I could go close to 2.40," he said.

His ability to rise to the occasion is a tribute to his temperament and concentration. All three of his clearances at 2.37 metres came in championships: in winning the world junior title in 1992 and in taking his senior indoor and outdoor world bronze medals.

Slough end Hightown's three-year title reign

BY A CORRESPONDENT

SLOUGH broke Hightown's three-year hold on the title when they beat them 3-2 in a penalty shoot-out after the sides were level, 5-5, in the final of the women's national indoor clubs hockey championship at Crystal Palace yesterday. In one of the closest finals in years, Slough took the lead three times, but the Merseysiders fought back to level the scores.

Goals by Lesley Hobley and Sam Wright gave Slough the lead before Linda Carr and Lorraine Marsden answered to make the half-time score 2-2. Sue Chandler and Wright restored Slough's lead before Tina Cullen and Jackie Crook replied. After Hobley had made it 5-4, Carr came back with a penalty corner in the dying seconds to send the match to penalties.

Hightown had a fine hat-trick from Cullen to thank for their place in the final. They had a tough semi-final match against Ipswich, who trailed 2-0 at the interval. Vicky Dixon converted a penalty stroke to make it 2-1, and Tracy Fry added Ipswich's second in the final minute.

In the other play-off, a goal by Hobley and two penalty corner goals by Karen Brown gave Slough a 3-1 win over Chelmsford.

On Saturday, Dame Alice Harpur, from Bedford, avenged their defeat in the Midlands Championships by beating Bromsgrove 2-1 in a penalty shoot-out after the sides were level at 1-1 to win the national indoor schools championship.

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هكذا من الأصل

Piller enjoys perfect tonic as his chaser makes winning comeback

Blazing Walker eyes National

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

BEING confined to a hospital bed in Zurich did not stop Peter Piller watching Blazing Walker's victorious comeback on Saturday after a year off the racecourse, and yesterday the winning owner mapped out an ambitious schedule for his top-class chaser culminating in a tilt at the Martell Grand National.

An SIS video of Blazing Walker's success in the Marston Moor Chase at Wetherby, recorded at Piller's Swiss home, was whisked to him within 30 minutes of his horse crossing the winning line and provided the perfect tonic

RICHARD EVANS

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following a hip replacement operation last Tuesday. "Everything was very well organised," he joked. "But wasn't Blazing Walker fantastic?"

The ten-year-old had been off the course since being badly struck into during last February's Racing Post Chase where he still finished less than 16 lengths behind Zeta's Lad, to whom he was giving 17lb. Despite being unfancied and not fully wound up for his reappearance, he came from last to first under Chris Grant to record his seventeenth victory from 38 starts.

"We gave him lots of time to recover from the injury and other niggling problems he has encountered. His next run will be the Racing Post Chase at Kempton and, if all is well, we will then think about Cheltenham and Liverpool," Piller added.

The Grand National is the race which has always fired the imagination of Piller and prompted him to have up to 40 horses in training with the late Arthur Stephenson. Piller said he would not wish Blazing Walker to run in both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National, but he could go for the Queen Mother Champion Chase over two miles before heading for Aintree. Corals yesterday offered 20-1 for the Cheltenham Gold Cup and, along with Ladbrokes, go 25-1 for the Grand National.

Piller added: "I think he is as good as he was before the injury. Despite a long absence he jumped well and looked to be relaxed during the race. I think he would stay the National trip and that has always been the race I would love to win. He is an ideal horse for the National and I would rather go for that than any other race."

Grant, who has finished runner-up eight times riding in races over the National fences, would relish the opportunity of going one better on Blazing Walker, who is now trained by Stephenson's nephew, Peter Cheesbrough. "He's the best horse I have ridden and I would love to ride him anywhere," the jockey said yesterday.

Grant and Piller will have special reason to see how Blazing Walker is treated when the weights for this year's Grand National are published tomorrow — along with Rosemary Henderson.

The 51-year-old vet's wife has been granted special dispensation by the Jockey Club to ride Fiddlers Pike in the Aintree race. National jockeys are required to have ridden a minimum of 15 winners under Rules and Mrs Henderson has ridden only seven.

However, the Jockey Club took into account her wide experience in point-to-points, where she has been successful 39 times. Fiddlers Pike is also her own horse which she trains under permit. The 13-year-old chaser carried her to victory in the Warwick National and the John Hughes Grand National Trial at Chepstow last season.

Although the start for this year's race will be 50 yards further down the course, alterations have been made to two of the bends at Aintree to ensure the distance of the 4½-mile race is unchanged.

A month ago Adrian Maguire enjoyed a lead of 42 over Richard Dunwoody in the jockeys' championship. At Fontwell this afternoon, Maguire resumes riding after serving a six-day suspension to find that lead whittled down to just six. "I am relishing the opportunity to ride again, especially with the run Richard has enjoyed over the last two weeks. It will be great to get back and start riding winners again," Maguire said yesterday.

Ironically, it was Maguire's retained trainer, David Nicholson, who provided Dunwoody with two of his three winners at Sandown yesterday — including Second Schedual, whose owner, Hugh McMahon, specifically moved his fine chaser from Ireland to the Nicholson yard so that Maguire could ride him regularly.

Muse was trimmed all round to 12-1 for the Champion Hurdle after what his trainer, David Elsworth, described as a "solid performance" to win the Agfa Hurdle. Oh So Risky, his more fancied Champion Hurdle stable companion, is set to run in the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury on Saturday, but Absalom's Lady and the Dermot Weld-trained Judicial Field are absentees.

SIMON Burrough was given a ten-day ban, from February 14-23, for misuse of the whip after winning the John Hughes Grand National Trial Handicap Chase on Just So at Chepstow on Saturday.

ED BYRNE

Dunwoody is in determined mood as Devils Den initiates a 25-1 treble for the champion at Sandown

Council's vision is blueprint for stable relations

Admission was free, the seating was comfortable, and the Queen and Prince Philip were framed spectators. Nevertheless, the prospects of an uplifting night out were still 33-1 against.

After all, Western area (planning) sub-committee of Newbury district council is not renowned as a crowd-puller. All of which makes the events of last Wednesday even more invigorating.

Haunted by the spectre of suffocating bureaucracy, I feared the worst as councillors sat down to discuss two applications submitted by Barry Hills to build houses at his existing South Bank stables, so he could afford to erect a modern training yard down the road in Lambourn.

In exactly half-an-hour, the planning committee opted to take the hard decision — by approving Hills's scheme. It would have been easier to reject the project and inflict another blow on Lambourn.

The council's policy towards racing pointed them in only one direction. "The district council will normally refuse proposals for change of use or redevelopment for existing suitably located racehorse training and breeding establishments."

Ah, but, the planning officer said, in Sir Humphrey Appleby style, that need not apply if the establishment involved was no longer suitable for the intended purpose. And most of the arguments put forward by Hills for moving — namely that South Bank's facilities were decades past their sell-by date — did have some merit, he added.

After the chairman of Lambourn parish council voiced local support, two planning committee members voiced fears about the loss of 57 jobs at the Hills yard if the application was rejected and the die was cast.

The flexibility and common sense of the Newbury planners is good, not just for Hills; it is important for Lambourn, the racing industry and the way it is perceived by our rulers.

For too long racing has been regarded merely as a sport, the plaything of the rich; not an industry with a sizeable workforce which can be an engine for growth. The effect of such a negative attitude has hurt racing and local communities in equal measure. It is not co-incidental that while the horse population in Lambourn has declined from 1,000 to 850 during the past five years, the Berkshire village has seen the closure of a restaurant, wine bar, flower shop, and, most important of all, the local branches of Lloyds and Barclays Bank.

The approval of the Hills project, which will generate about £600,000 of building work for local firms, should offer encouragement to a recently-formed action group in Lambourn, including trainers, which aims to reverse the alarming decline in business.

Racing must work more closely with local businesses and communities than in the past. For example, if Newmarket wishes to turn its Guineas meeting into a flourishing festival it must take the town into its confidence and sell the potential commercial advantages.

In return, local councils must realise they can play an important role by offering encouragement, and not using red tape to hinder. Newbury district council helped to show the way forward last week. For that they deserve fulsome praise.

RICHARD EVANS

Racing commentary

Festival on agenda for classy Nearly Splendid

POINT-TO-POINT
BY BRIAN BEEL

IT IS almost 14 years since Waggoners Walk and Weymouth Road fought out the finish of the four-mile National Hunt Chase at Cheltenham, a race which has so often provided students of point-to-point form with the best value bet at the festival.

Spectators at the New Forest meeting on Saturday will have pencilled in the name of Nearly Splendid for the honours this year. Under Tom Greed, he repeated his Larkhill win of three weeks ago beating a high-class field with ease by eight lengths. Last year his three successes were all over four miles.

Roy Stevens, the nine-year-old's owner, confirmed that Cheltenham was now the main objective but, on the way, he will take in a hunter chase at Leicester in four weeks' time.

In his previous race Nearly Splendid had beaten Over The Edge and Nick The Brief. Nick The Brief was in action again on Saturday in the **Oxford University** open, where he and Lady Llanfair headed the betting, although Green Archer was backed down from 11-2 to 4-1 third favourite at the off.

The inexperienced Sarah Redwood did little wrong on Nick The Brief, and it was more the skill of Tick Saunders on Green Archer which contributed to his 1½-length defeat.

After Jon Trice-Rolph had booted home Midday Villa for the Pidgeon Stable in the restricted, the maiden looked to be going the same way when Milled Oats led two out. Mark Chamberlain, however, produced a strong late run on Whitmonday to win by three lengths.

Philip Scholfield returned to racing with a winner, Ballyeden, in the **North Cornwall** confined, but not until his explanation had been recorded over his riding of My Main Man, tailed off in the members. Mister Main Man became the first horse to win three times this season when landing the **Thurlow** intermediate, completing a double for Willie Sporborg, who had earlier won the confined on Cardinal Richelieu.

There was a surprise in the **West Percy & Milvain** open when Julian Llewellen-Palmer rode his first winner, Mirage Day, while in the open at the **Old Raby**, Wild Child, the favourite, had nothing more to offer when passed four out by Fast Study, an ex-winning chaser, now owned and ridden by Simon Robinson.

FONTWELL PARK

THUNDERER

2.00 SARTORIUS (nap)
2.30 Nanquidno
3.00 Your Well
3.30 Ballet Royal
4.00 Tammy's Friend
4.30 Brightling Boy

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 BALLET ROYAL.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

2.00 CLIMPING CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,334: 2m 2f) (5 runners)

101 52-3234 SARTORIUS 38 (G,S) (M Popham) T Thomson Jones 8-11-10 ..... D Meade [illegible]
102 3P-2021 RIGHTING DAYS 69 (CD,F,G) (F Hill) A Moore 8-11-0 ..... J Clarke 90
103 231231- GENERAL MERCHANT 260 (B,CD,F,G,S) (S Tate) R Hodges 14-10-12 T Thompson (4) 95
104 041/324 UNIQUE NEW YORK 7 (V,G,S) (Miss S Jameson) S Woodman 11-10-4 ..... Guy Lewis 92
105 P5F32-P VICTORY GATE 89 (S) (Mrs P Dunlop) A Moore 9-10-0 ..... A Thornton 88

Long handicap: Victory Gate 9-11.

BETTING: 2-1 Righting Days, 11-4 Sartorius, 7-2 General Merchant, 11-2 Unique New York, 10-1 Victory Gate

1993: THATCHER ROCK 8-10-10 R Greene (8-13 fav) P Nicholls 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SARTORIUS 6l 2nd of 5 to Iama Zulu in a handicap chase at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). RIGHTING DAYS beat Wickfield Lad 4l in 9-runner conditional jockeys' selling chase over course and distance (2m 2f, good). GENERAL MERCHANT beat Boston Rover 3l in 10-runner handicap chase at Towcester (2m 110yd, good to firm). UNIQUE NEW YORK 15l 2nd of 5 to City Kid in handicap chase over course and distance (soft). VICTORY GATE 15l 2nd of 6 to Sandybraes in novice handicap chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, soft).
Selection: RIGHTING DAYS

2.30 PAGHAM SELLING HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,830: 2m 2f) (11 runners)

201 0 DOCK OF THE BAY 11 (S Cantwell) P McBride 10-12 ..... D Bridgwater 88
202 06PP RAGAZZO 10 (B) (S Podmore) K Cunningham-Brown 10-12 ..... A Charlton 80
203 CELTIC LILLEY (A Green) R Hoad 10-7 ..... M Hoad –
204 FREEPLOVE 459F (Miss N Nil Lusa) P Butler 10-7 ..... M A Fitzgerald –
205 6 MANON LESCAUT 66 (F Barnes) J White 10-7 ..... A Maguire 80
206 MIND THE ROOF 161F (Seymour Bloodstock Ltd) G Pritchard-Gordon 10-7 ... D Murphy –
207 B4222 NANQUIDNO 10 (Mrs P Brown) M Pipe 10-7 ..... R Dunwoody [illegible]
208 40 PATONG BEACH 5 (Mitek Packaging Ltd) M Muggeridge 10-7 ..... M Ahern 90
209 064 ROWLANDSONS GOLD 21 (Rowlandsons Ltd) M Channon 10-7 ..... Lorna Vincent 94
210 P SHOPTILLYOUDROP 37F (K Higson) G L Moore 10-7 ..... H Jenkins –
211 WITCHWAY NORTH 9F (V) (J Berry) H Coathupidge 10-7 ..... V Smith –

BETTING: 4-6 Nanquidno, 5-1 Manon Lescaut, 7-1 Rowlandsons Gold, 12-1 Patong Beach, 14-1 others.

1993: KING OF NORMANDY 10-12 A Maguire (Evens fav) J Flitch-Hayes 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOCK OF THE BAY 29l 8th of 16 to Fontanays in a novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft). MANON LESCAUT 37l 6th of 14 to Don't Forget Marie in a claiming novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft). NANQUIDNO 6l 2nd of 9 to Mr Genealogy in a claiming novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft) with RAGAZZO pulled up before 2 out. PATONG BEACH just over 17l 4th of 7 to Lady Gail in a claiming novice hurdle over course and distance (firm). ROWLANDSONS GOLD just over 25l 4th of 7 to Silver Standard in a novice hurdle over course and distance (soft).
Selection: NANQUIDNO

3.00 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £2,794: 3m 2f 110yd) (5 runners)

301 311/224 LUCKY LANE 18 (F,G) (R Hamilton) P Hobbs 10-11-3 ..... C Maude [illegible]
302 1303-31 YORKSHIRE GALE 66 (G,S) (B Naylor) J Gifford 8-11-3 ..... D Murphy 97
303 3/5/431 YOUR WELL 18 (B,S) (D Newell) J White 8-11-3 ..... B Clifford 97
304 1P6-5UF IRISH BAY 18 (B,F,G,S) (R Shaw) C Egerton 8-10-10 ..... J Osborne 87
305 UP MISS MURE 18 (F,G) (H'S Racing) R Curtis 8-10-5 ..... D Morris –

BETTING: 2-1 Yorkshire Gale, 5-2 Your Well, 7-2 Lucky Lane, 11-2 Irish Bay, 25-1 Miss Mure

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

LUCKY LANE 26l 2nd of 8 to Kalanski in a novice chase at Exeter (2m 7f 110yd, heavy). YORKSHIRE GALE beat Spiley 24l in a 6-runner novice chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, good) with LUCKY LANE unseated rider halfway. YOUR WELL beat Nickie Joe 3l in a 6-runner novice chase at Haydock (2m 4f, soft).
Selection: YORKSHIRE GALE (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs J Pitman	8	11	72.7	J Osborne	8	26	30.8
G Harwood	11	27	40.7	A Charlton	4	13	30.8
G Pritchard-Gordon	5	13	38.5	M Hoad	3	11	27.3
T Forster	6	16	37.5	G McCourt	7	27	25.9
M Pipe	30	84	35.7	D Morris	19	77	24.7

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3.30 CHICHESTER NOVICES HURDLE (£1,543: 2m 2f) (15 runners)

401 01 FONTANAYS 11 (S) (Pegasus Racing) Mrs M McCourt 6-11-8 ..... G McCourt 72
402 242 BALLET ROYAL 17 (Park Farm Thoroughbreds) G Harwood 5-11-2 ..... M Perrett [illegible]
403 DENVER BAY (B Naylor) J Gifford 7-11-2 ..... D Murphy –
404 P43 DUTY SERGEANT 11 (W Mann) M Muggeridge 5-11-2 ..... M Ahern 72
405 05-0050 GREEN'S GAME 25 (M Green) M Mitchell 6-11-2 ..... G Upton –
406 5/2-06 JOHNS JOY 37F (Miss J Self) J Bridger 9-11-2 ..... D O'Sullivan 70
407 00 OUROWN/FELLOW 6 (Kings Of The Road Partners) B Curtis 5-11-2 ..... D Morris –
408 6P8324- RING CORBITTS 227 (M Roberts) M Roberts 6-11-2 ..... R Dunwoody 74
409 P TEMPLE KNIGHT 11 (T Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 5-11-2 ..... S Earle –
410 0-00 UNCERTAIN TIMES 12 (D Cornelius) R Rowe 7-11-2 ..... T Grantham –
411 U DOMITOR'S LASS 17 (R Ledger) R Ledger 7-10-11 ..... Mrs N Ledger –
412 LB'S GIRL (Miss V Markowski) J Poulton 5-10-11 ..... J Clarke (7) –
413 F YELLOW CORN 111 (Mrs R Howell) D Grissell 5-10-11 ..... J Railton –
414 ZULU PEARL (G Radmore) J Gifford 6-10-11 ..... E Murphy –
415 MIGAVON 112F (L Snook) L Snook 4-10-1 ..... D Gallagher –

BETTING: 10-11 Ballet Royal, 9-2 Yellow Corn, 6-1 Fontanays, 8-1 Denver Bay, 14-1 Duty Sergeant, Ring Corbitts, 16-1 Johns Joy, Uncertain Times, 20-1 others.

1993: CAPTAIN DOLFORD 6-11-3 J Railton (50-1) D Grissell 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

FONTANAYS beat Carpet Slippers 1½l in a 16-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft) with TEMPLE KNIGHT (6lb better off) pulled up before 2 out. BALLET ROYAL 7l 2nd of 12 to Scobie Boy in a novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to soft) with DOMITOR'S LASS behind when unseated rider fall.

DUTY SERGEANT 37l 3rd of 7 to Wild Strawberry in a novice hurdle at Lingfield (AW, 2m) RING CORBITTS 8l 4th of 7 to Stated Case in handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (3m 3f 110yd, good to firm). YELLOW CORN 4th when fell 2 out behind Old Bridge in novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good). Selection: BALLET ROYAL

4.00 BOGNOR REGIS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,508: 3m 2f 110yd) (6 runners)

501 4P-3RUP GOLD CAP 66 (CD,S) (Poem Racing) P Hobbs 9-11-10 ..... G McCourt 87
502 5PP-445 PHAROAH'S LAEN 65 (D,F,G,S) (T Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 13-11-3 ..... S Earle 87
503 13861P TAMMY'S FRIEND 14 (B,CD,BF,F,S) (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-12 I Lawrence 96
504 /00P4P ROSITARY 17 (B,F,S) (P Winkworth) P Winkworth 11-10-0 ..... A Maguire [illegible]
505 324/P-PU BE SURPRISED 90 (G) (F Hill) A Moore 8-10-0 ..... R Powell –
506 5P0120 DOROBO 19 (B,D,S) (Lady Lewinson) T Forster 6-10-0 ..... R Farrant (3) 87

Long handicap: Be Surprised 9-10, Dorobo 9-4

BETTING: 5-4 Tammy's Friend, 7-2 Gold Cap, 9-2 Dorobo, 10-1 Pharoah's Laen, 16-1 Rositary, Be Surprised

1993: GOLD CAP 8-10-5 Peter Hobbs (4-1) P Hobbs 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

TAMMY'S FRIEND beat Silverton 13l in a 5-runner handicap chase over course and distance (heavy) ROSITARY 8l 4th of 8 to Sam Shorrock in an amateur riders' handicap chase over course and distance (soft). DOROBO head 2nd of 7 to Valeta 8l in a novice handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2f, soft). Previously beat Silver Age 6l in a 10-runner novice handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, heavy)
Selection: TAMMY'S FRIEND

4.30 ARUNDEL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,358: 2m 6f) (17 runners)

601 11/F0-65 MASAI MARA 14F (B,F,G) (D Smith) T Jones 6-11-11 ..... B Powell 86
602 F2P511 THE GOLFING CURATE 12 (S) (Poem Racing) R Rowe 9-11-9 ..... G McCourt 90
603 30-0142 HAPPY HORSE 7 (D,S) (Major I Manning) Mrs J Redfree-Barons 7-11-4 ..... A Tory [illegible]
604 511-F25 SURCOAT 11 (BF,F) (Duckhaven Stud) R Baker 7-11-2 ..... L Harvey [illegible]
605 221-600 CAPPUCCINO GIRL 11 (B) (Mrs J Gray) F Gray 7-11-1 ..... M Crossle 90
606 P15-314 BRIGHTLING BOY 17 (CD,F,G,S) (M Hayden) D Grissell 9-11-1 ..... J Railton 90
607 1230-43 JADIDH 25 (D,F,G,S) (D Hazzard) C Wildman 6-10-11 ..... D Salter (5) 86
608 4/40435 ACCESS SUN 17 (F,S) (Dalam Ltd) J King 7-10-10 ..... A Maguire 92
609 1-242F5 THE MRS 48 (F,S) (G Mullins) J Mullins 8-10-8 ..... S Earle 97
610 1PP4/3- PODRIDA 515 (S) (The I W Racing Club) R O'Sullivan 8-10-7 ..... D O'Sullivan 84
611 323F11 DOUALAGO 19 (B,D,G,S) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 4-10-6 ..... R Dunwoody 97
612 03F268 SMILING CHIEF 10 (G) (Mrs E Tucker) R Hodges 6-10-5 ..... M A Fitzgerald 93
613 6/21P-40 CARRIONS 11 (G) (Mrs R Hepburn) D Grissell 7-10-4 ..... M Richards 84
614 1-834P PRIZE MATCH 41 (S) (P Taylor) N Gaselee 5-10-3 ..... C Llewellyn 96
615 6/4045-0 VILLA PARK 11 (F,S) (G Wareham) G Wareham 12-10-2 ..... M Perrett 89
616 F1S105 MILDRED SOPHIA 7 (S) (N Mitchell) N Mitchell 7-10-0 ..... Miss S Mitchell (7) 73
617 4UR04P WILTONIO 32 (F,G) (R Ledger) R Ledger 8-10-0 ..... Mrs N Ledger 85

Long handicap: Mildred Sophia 9-2, Wiltonio 9-1.

BETTING: 9-2 The Golfing Curate, 11-2 Doualago, 8-1 Happy Horse, 7-1 Brightling Boy, 10-1 Access Sun, Surcoat, 12-1 Masai Mara, Jadidh, 14-1 Smiling Chief, 16-1 The Mrs, Carrions, 20-1 others.

1993: METAL DISEAU 5-10-4 A Charlton (7-2) J Moore 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

THE GOLFING CURATE beat The Wisp 7l in a 7-runner novice handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). HAPPY HORSE 34l 2nd of 12 to Damier Blanc in a handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good to soft) with MILDRED SOPHIA stopped up before 2 out. SURCOAT 31l 5th of 13 to Gray's Elergy in a handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (3m 2f, soft) with VILLA PARK (1lb better off) 14l 7th. CARRIONS (2lb better off) 3l 8th and CAPPUCCINO GIRL short head 9th. BRIGHTLING BOY beat Chief Celt 2½l in a 13-runner handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, soft) with THE GOLFING CURATE (9lb worse off) 18l 5th. ACCESS SUN 12l 3rd of 9 to Edinburgh in a handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, heavy). PODRIDA 41l 3rd of 5 to Cairncastle in a handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (3m 3f, good to soft). DOUALAGO beat Celtic Bow ¾l in a 7-runner selling hurdle at Southwell (AW, 2m 6f) last time.
Selection: THE GOLFING CURATE

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wolverhampton: 2.15 Super Heights. 2.45 Cramona, Tranquil Lady. 4.45 Coven Star.

LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Winning strike rate
M Pipe	68	52	29	1	+15.41
Miss M Rowley	67	56	34	2	+15.53
K Bailey	53	36	26	3	+1.82
D Nicholson	47	37	33	1	+24.39
N Twiston-Davies	47	35	32	4	-51.65
J White	38	24	28	4	-55.21
P Hobbs	36	22	25	11	+38.96
J Johnson	29	12	9	2	+98.01
D Sherwood	28	20	18	13	+5.79
J Gifford	27	36	19	1	+3.74
G Richards	26	27	27	8	-90.19
M Hammond	26	31	17	3	-74.79

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
A Maguire	114	98	59	14	+13.50
R Dunwoody	109	92	71	3	-74.59
J Osborne	69	52	40	3	-46.86
P Niven	62	51	30	2	-44.74
N Williamson	61	62	44	3	-80.96
G McCourt	46	34	28	5	-17.43
M A Fitzgerald	43	35	45	9	-71.36
D Murphy	37	35	29	0	-1.59
L Wyer	35	20	32	4	+51.19
D Bridgwater	31	21	24	3	-66.48
S Bradley	30	15	17	10	-20.95
C Llewellyn	30	33	24	20	-87.03

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

1.45 Spring Flyer. 2.15 Gallery Artist. 2.45 On The Ledge. 3.15 Simmie's Special. 3.45 Lone Risk. 4.15 Brigade. 4.45 Shuttlecock.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M 100YD, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.45 THAMES HANDICAP
(£3,080: 1m 1f 79yd) (13 runners)

1 (6) 0-U2 LOWAWATHA 13 (BF,G,S) D Morris 5-10-0 C Hodgson (3) 92
2 (10) 0-40 COURAGEOUS KNIGHT 3 (F) J Bradley 5-9-10 J Weaver 92
3 (5) 0-35 EARLY STAR 10 (G) K Bishop 5-9-7 ..... R Perham 80
4 (13) 325- SPRING FLYER 61 (G) A Bailey 4-9-6 ..... S Whitworth 94
5 (9) 2320 AWESTRUCK 2 (B,F,G,S) B Preece 4-9-4 ..... T Wall 94
6 (8) 3-00 MR CUBE 16 (F,G) J Bradley 4-9-4 ..... J Williams 97
7 (11) 000- WELSH HERITAGE 131 Lord Huntingdon 4-8-13 D Harrison 98
8 (1) -200 JEROBOAM 9 (G) Allen Smith (Ire) 6-8-12 ..... K Darley [illegible]
9 (3) 0U-0 IRISH DOMINION 16 P Leach 4-8-9 ..... Stephen Davies (3) 90
10 (4) 00-3 ROLY WALLACE 3 (V,F) A Forbes 5-8-5 ..... S D Williams 94
11 (7) 40-0 NOEL 16 J O'Shea 5-8-3 ..... J Quinn 90
12 (2) 00-0 BRESIL 24 P Jarvis 5-8-2 ..... D Wright (5) 90
13 (12) 100- PEACE FORMULA 39J M Tate 5-8-1 ..... Dale Gibson –

4-1 Awestruck, 9-2 Lowawatha, 5-1 Spring Flyer, 6-1 Welsh Heritage, 7-1 others.

2.15 TRENT AMATEUR RIDERS CLAIMING STAKES (£2,070: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 (1) 050- ROSEATE LODGE 55 (D,F,G) K Burke 8-10-7 ..... Mr C Dunwoody (7) [illegible]
2 (3) 1314 POP TO STANS 9 (CD,F,G) J Pearce 5-10-5 Mrs L Pearce 91
3 (12) 60-0 BREEZED WELL 31 (F,G) P Cambidge 5-10-3 ..... Mrs H Norman (5) 67
4 (4) 12/ KIREY OPPORTUNITY 109J (F,G) P Leach 6-10-2 ..... Miss L Horsey (7) –
5 (5) 11-6 MISSY-S 10 (D,F,G) B Llewellyn 5-10-0 ..... J L Llewellyn 85
6 (10) 400- STRIKE-A-ROSE 135 (C,F,G) B Llewellyn 4-9-13 ..... Miss E J Jones (7) 86
7 (11) 400- THUNDERING 76 (C,D,F,S) A Jones 9-9-12 ..... Miss Diana Jones 68
8 (9) -530 EXPRESS SERVICE 13 (B,C,G) D Chapman 5-9-11 ..... Miss R Clark (5) 98
9 (8) -050 JUVENARA 3 (D,F,G) A Forbes 8-9-11 Miss R Whittle (7) 74
10 (13) 10-0 PRIME MOVER 10 (G) D Chapman 6-9-11 M Newsham (5) 98
11 (6) 02-4 ROYAL ACCLAIM 16 (V,D,F,G,S) J Bradley 9-9-11 ..... Mrs D McHale (5) 85
12 (7) 65-0 SUPER HEIGHTS 27 (V,F,G) D Williams 6-9-11 ..... Miss S Higgins (7) 89
13 (2) 45-6 GALLERY artist 9 (G,S) R Guest 5-9-9 Mrs M Crowley 91

4-1 Roseate Lodge, 5-1 Express Service, Pop To Stans, 6-1 Gallery Artist, 7-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lord Huntingdon, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%; J Harris, 3 from 10, 30.0%; E Alston, 3 from 13, 23.1%; A Bailey, 3 from 19, 15.8%; R Hollinshead, 4 from 37, 10.8%. Only qualifiers.
JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 7 winners from 28 rides, 25.0%; S Bardwell, 3 from 14, 21.4%; L Darley, 3 from 17, 17.6%; J Williams, 4 from 27, 14.8%; Paul Eddery 4 from 33, 12.1%; J Quinn, 5 from 45, 11.1%.

2.45 NENE MAIDEN STAKES (£3,143: 1m 4f) (9)

1 (0) SWORDKING 73J J Hanks 5-9-2 ..... Paul Eddery –
2 (1) 54-3 MR BEAN 27 K Burke 4-8-12 ..... D Holland 83
3 (3) 00-0 ON THE LEDGE 28 J Hills 4-8-12 ..... M Hills 94
4 (4) 00- TEROMA 184 J Scargill 4-8-12 ..... K Darley –
5 (8) 500- ANNYBAN 178 R Hollinshead 4-8-7 ..... S Perks [illegible]
6 (7) -050 ARRASAS LADY 16 J Long 4-8-7 ..... D Wright (5) 91
7 (6) -005 CRAMONA 10 (V) E Alston 4-8-7 ..... S Knott (7) 86
8 (5) EMMA'S VISION M Barraclough 4-8-7 ..... J Weaver –
9 (2) -400 TRANQUIL LADY 16 (V) E Alston 4-8-7 ... M Fenton (3) 96

5-2 Tranquil Lady, 3-1 Mr Bean, 5-1 On The Ledge, Swordking, 7-1 others.

3.15 SEVERN HANDICAP (£2,713: 6f) (13)

1 (3) -213 QUINZI MARTIN 14 (V,C,BF,G) D Haydn Jones 6-10-0 ..... J Williams 91
2 (4) 0451 SIMMIE'S SPECIAL 7 (B,CD,G) R Hollinshead 6-10-0 (7ex) ..... K Darley 95
3 (2) 0-04 BALLAD DANCER 10 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs V Acaley 9-9-13 ..... T Williams 90
4 (1) 010- SLOWING PATH 39J (F,S) R Hodges 4-9-12 S Drowne (5) 97
5 (5) 34-0 KILLY'S FILLY 16 (D,G) J Bradley 4-9-8 ..... J Weaver 87
6 (6) -054 GIRL NEXT DOOR 7 (D,G) R Spicer 4-9-7 ..... Paul Eddery 92
7 (13) 036- PANTHER 17J J Hetherton 4-9-6 ..... N Kennedy (3) [illegible]
8 (9) 0-00 JORDYWRATH 24 (D,G) D Chapman 4-9-3 ..... J Fanning 87
9 (7) -234 SWINGING TICH 10 B McMahon 5-9-2 ..... D Holland 95
10 (8) 00-0 TOSHIBA COMET 24 (B,D,F,G,S) Pat Mitchell 7-9-0 ..... J Quinn 85
11 (10) 0-06 ARC LAMP 7 (C,F,G) J Glover 8-9-0 ..... S D Williams 96
12 (12) 050- LOWRIANNA 227 (F) D Burchell 4-8-8 ..... R Price –
13 (11) 0-06 SAY SUNPAK 10 Mrs V Acaley 4-8-5 ..... M Wigham 98

11-4 Simmie's Special, 4-1 Quinzi Martin, 5-1 Girl Next Door, 6-1 others.

3.45 WELLAND CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,243: 1m 1f 79yd) (6)

1 (6) 2324 KILLING TIME 3 (V) A Forbes 8-11 ..... S D Williams 91
2 (2) 0-23 MR DEVIOUS 6 (BF,G) C Allen 8-11 ..... E Guest 98
3 (1) 0-62 ALPINE JOHNNY 7 R Hollinshead 8-9 ..... S Perks 94
4 (3) 1415 LONE RISK 7 (CD,G) C Allen 8-5 ..... G Bardwell [illegible]
5 (5) 000- MR SOX 53 R Bastiston 8-5 ..... N Adams –
6 (4) 066- BUNNY RUN 48 P Howling 8-0 ..... J Quinn 83

5-2 Alpine Johnny, 11-4 Lone Risk, 3-1 Killing Time, Mr Devious, 12-1 others

4.15 TYNE CONDITIONS STAKES (£3,319: 7f) (4)

1 (3) 004- BRIGADE 125 (D,G) D Loder 5-9-10 ..... X Darley [illegible]
2 (1) 1 CHAIRMANS CHOICE 24 (G) A Jarvis 4-9-10 .. M Hills 74
3 (2) 105- TONY'S MIST 26J (G,S) J Bradley 4-9-10 ... J Weaver 85
4 (4) 1 ESPLA 30 (C,G) M Prescott 3-8-6 ..... C Nutter 67

6-4 Brigade, 9-4 Espla, 7-2 Tony's Mist, 5-1 Chairmans Choice

4.45 AVON HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,243: 7f) (6)

1 (3) 02-2 OVALWORLD 20 (BF) D Nicholls 9-7 ..... Paul Eddery [illegible]
2 (4) 6-33 SHUTTLECOCK 2 (D,G) R Phillips 9-0 ..... D Wright (5) 84
3 (2) 4-32 CAZANOVE'S PET 10 G Bravery 8-9 ..... C Hawksley (7) 84
4 (5) -050 OLD HOOK 13 (F) Allan Smith (Ire) 8-6 ..... K Darley 95
5 (6) 0-04 CAPITAL LADY 17 B Rothwell 8-2 ..... D Harrison 92
6 (1) 00-0 COVEN STAR 13 (B) D Morris 7-11 ... Stephen Davies (3) 84

2-1 Ovalworld, 5-2 Cazanove's Pet, Shuttlecock, 8-1 Capital Lady, 10-1 others.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S SIX MEETINGS

Sandown Park

Going: heavy (soft in places)

12.50 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Devils Den (R Dunwoody, 1-2 fav); 2, Erdouie (33-1); 3, Paper Days (25-1). 10 ran. 3½l, 12l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.30; £1.10; £3.30; £6.50. DF: £16.90. Tno: £148.50. CSF: £17.93.

1.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Baydon Star (R Dunwoody, 6-4 fav); Richard Evans's napi; 2, Crystal Spirit (7-4); 3, Bas De Laine (100-30). 4 ran. 3½l, 20l. D Nicholson. Tote: £2.10. DF: £1.60. CSF: £4.15.

1.55 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Dark Honey (A Dicken, 8-1); 2, Dermant Serenade (12-1); 3, Olympian (7-1). High Altitude 11-2 f

City stage fitting welcome for Lee's return

Manchester City 2
Ipswich Town 1

By Peter Ball

THE banner draped over the main entrance to Maine Road on Saturday read "Welcome Francis". The message to the returning hero was repeated on the field, Manchester City claiming only their second victory in 17 FA Carling Premiership matches to give Francis Lee's new regime the perfect start.

It could not have been otherwise, but Lee is too worldly a businessman and a football man to be carried away. Others were more easily convinced by the euphoria as Little and Large, knockabout comedians in the Maine Road tradition, took the plaudits, 1,000 blue and white balloons were released and, finally, Lee took his seat to a standing ovation.

"This is the day we begin to put the word 'great' back into Manchester City," announced the man on the public address system, his enthusiasm exceeding his knowledge of history. "Great" has been a word only sparingly linked with Manchester's second club and, initially, it appeared things had not changed since Lee made his famous comment that "if there was a cup for muck-ups, this club would win it every year".

"We're going to have 'Iron out all muck-ups' written into the articles of association," Lee said. It may take more than that to change to course of City's history, but at least they made a positive beginning on Saturday.

Nevertheless, farce predominated at the start. Ipswich, entering into the spirit of things, tried hard to give City an early goal, but then took the lead themselves as Flitcroft steered his back-pass straight to Marshall, the Ipswich forward, who found himself all alone with only Coton, the City goalkeeper, to beat, which he did. Flitcroft's misery looked abject, but the comedy stopped there and City then fought back.

"It couldn't have happened better," Lee said. "The first goal tested them, tested their spirit and, boy, did they battle all the way through."

If Lee was relieved, so was Brian Horton, who is under no illusions that his job as manager depends on results: "I met the chairman in the morning and I didn't ask for any assurances," Horton said. "He's a professional, I'm a professional, I know it comes down to results."

The players could not have done more to put Horton's case for him: "Everyone is backing the manager," Rocastle said. "He has been brilliant to me. He threw me a lifeline, has appreciated that I can play and I feel wanted, which wasn't always the case."

Rocastle's gratitude found spectacular expression in the crucial equalising goal. Trapped near the touchline with his back to the Ipswich goal, he put his foot on the ball, feinted and, with a twist and a turn, was free, leaving two Ipswich defenders tackling thin air. A measured cross did the rest, Griffiths arriving at the near post to flick it past Forrest.

"That was Brazilian skill," Lee enthused afterwards. "He had five touches in about 0.5 of a second and left three of them for dead. That's what football is about, players who can do things like that that turn the crowd on. I had thought that that sort of individual flair had gone out of the game since my day, but that would have graced anybody's team in any era. He could have done that playing with Puskas or Pelé, nobody could have done that better."

If that was breathtaking, the second goal was more workaday. Vonk rose to head Curle's free kick back across goal and Flitcroft arrived fractionally ahead of Forrest to poke it home. Workaday, but so crucial.

"We won't go down, you can have that in writing," Lee promised, but he knows that once Saturday's euphoria has dispersed, there is a long way to go. At least Flitcroft's goal should ensure that Horton is around to spend the money promised to strengthen the side when it becomes available in the next two weeks.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-3-3): A Coton — R Edghill, M Vonk, K Curle, T Phelan — S Lomas, D Rocastle, G Flitcroft — C Shutt, C Griffiths, M Sheron.
IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): C Forrest — M Stockwell, J Wark, D Linighan, N Thompson — S Slater (sub: S Palmer 68min), G Williams, E Youds, G Johnson — B Gueriechev (sub: C Kiwomya 68), I Marshall.
Referee: A Hart.

Blackburn honed to sharp edge by skills of Shearer

Blackburn Rovers 3
Wimbledon 0

By Michael Henderson

KENNY DALGLISH should know by now what Tantalus thought. After every Blackburn victory the grapes he had hoped to grasp are swept away on the breeze of another win by the Trafford Tearaways. Rovers have won their past five matches and still languish 13 points behind Manchester United. Surely they would do better to focus on the Cup.

You never know, though. They have two matches in hand over United, who have yet to visit Ewood Park, which is no longer a mere "ground". When the extensive developments have been completed, in time for next season, it will be a stadium, no less, quite out of place in its cramped location.

The quality of Blackburn's football in the first half of this commanding victory was outstanding. Le Saux was bracing in the position one must call left wing-back, Batty rarely wasted a pass, Ripley and Wilcox stretched Wimbledon hither and thither, and Shearer played like the bobby-dazzler he is.

Blackburn would not be half the team they are without Shearer. In this mood, defenders cannot subdue him unless, like Scales ten minutes from time, they give his ankles a mighty whack in front of an indulgent referee.

That foul gave Shearer an opportunity to rest his weary bones before tomorrow night's fourth-round FA Cup replay against Charlton. He begins it with 27 goals in all football this season, the latest from the penalty spot as Blackburn overwhelmed Wimbledon with three first-half goals. On other days they would have doubled their score.

Barton's trip on Le Saux presented Shearer with his chance. The move that led to the award began with Shearer, who had given Wilcox one of his many imaginative passes, right to left. Another, left to right, let in Gallacher, whose run appeared to be halted by a reckless tackle. On that occasion Elkins escaped.

On the half-hour, Wilcox moved inside from the left wing, got back the pass he gave to Gallacher and hit a peach of a shot high into the net from 25 yards. From his cross eight minutes later, the ball ran loose when Gallacher challenged at the near post and Ripley cleaned up the mess.

In their desperation, Wimbledon were reduced to belly-aching and, on at least one occasion, play-acting. Gallacher was booked, justly, for clipping Segers outside the penalty area, however much the home supporters disputed the decision. When Segers went down again shortly afterwards, caught by Shearer, he robbed the moment of its dramatic meaning by jumping up again, as if from a trampoline. At best he was naughty; at worst, guilty of deception. Coloured cards exist for either case.

Blackburn's only worry concerned Sherwood, who was forced from the field after 11 minutes with a wrenched shoulder. People have left the pitch against Wimbledon in worse trouble than he, painful though it must be for him. Their performance here, lacking purpose or spirit, was pitiful. Praise Blackburn instead. They were marvellous.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (3-3-4): T Flowers, H Berg, K Moran, G Le Saux; N Marker, T Sherwood (sub: A Morrison, 11min), D Batty, S Ripley, A Shearer (sub: I Pearce, 80), K Gallacher, J Wilcox.
WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): H Segers, R Joseph, S Fitzgerald, J Scales, G Elkins, W Barton, L Sanchez, N Ardley (sub: G Blissett, 65), R Earle, D Holdsworth, J Fashanu.
Referee: A Wilkie

Evans warms to task of reviving faith in Liverpool

Norwich City 2
Liverpool 2

By Keith Pike

AN HOUR after the match had ended on Saturday, Roy Evans was still being pestered for interviews. The new Liverpool manager was beginning to realise, he said, just how much the welfare of his club meant to the country, not just Merseyside.

Evans talked a good game, too. Liverpool, who had twice come from behind to force a draw, might have nicked it at the death, he argued, and a place in Europe was not beyond them. "The spirit was tremendous. I thought my players were absolutely magnificent," he said.

Perhaps it was the fog now gripping Carrow Road that blinded Evans to a more obvious conclusion. The club was once the pride of the nation, but the team he has inherited from Graeme

Evans: eyeing Europe

Souness is a depressingly ordinary outfit.

There were plus points. McManaman, direct and purposeful as he put his pace to good use down the right flank, again looked a fine prospect, while Rush and Whelan, two of the six 30-somethings in the side, are ageing well. It is even conceivable that Whelan, selected for the first time in nearly five months, might have saved Souness's job. His hunger for the tackle and eye for a pass, two attributes Bristol City did not have to contend with in the FA Cup, made him Liverpool's most influential player here.

But elsewhere, Liverpool were either lacking or slacking and, collectively, they were mundane. Clough, Walters and Barnes, potential match-winners all, entered the fray only fitfully, and defensively Liverpool looked decidedly suspect. Fowler, Redknap and Ruddock are in the Liverpool wings, and this is hardly a sinking ship. The Cup defeat was their only reverse in ten matches, and fifth place in the FA Carling Premiership does not equate to a crisis. But it remains disquieting to see Liverpool merely jostling for position in the pack. That, once, would have been the height of Norwich's ambition. They might struggle to win at home, but Norwich are as attractive a team as can be found.

Robert Chase, the Norwich chairman, who said he had no need or intention to sell Ruel Fox and then sold him, spent Saturday insisting he had no need or intention to sell Chris Sutton. Quite. John Deehan, the Norwich manager, was more realistic.

Deehan, too, maintained initially that Sutton "is not going anywhere in the foreseeable future", but later conceded that Norwich have little hope of holding on to one of the country's outstanding strikers.

"That is the way our club survives, that is the way it is run," Deehan said. "I understood the limitations when I took the job and I abide by the rules." All that needs to be resolved is the size of the cheque from the likes of Tottenham or Blackburn.

Sutton's stock certainly rose with the two goals that took his season's tally to 20. Both were scored with his favoured right foot, one from close in and the other from distance. The first confirmed he has that priceless gift of awareness, for when Ekoku's low cross was intercepted by the stretching Wright, Sutton might have hesitated. Instead, as the ball sat up conveniently, he pounced: right time, right place. Wright punished.

Sutton's second was a beauty; a one-two with Goss, a flick of the outside of the boot to tee up the ball, and a curling, dipping shot into the top far corner.

Had Ekoku possessed the same decisiveness, or Grobbelaar not saved splendidly from Goss, Norwich would have left Liverpool no way back.

Instead they were caught, first when Megson's error led to Culverhouse turning Rush's cross into his own net, and then when Barnes finished simply 14 minutes from time. Television evidence later showed that Gunn had been prevented from making a save by Rush's foul.

No replay was necessary, though, to confirm that the goalkeeper was correctly sent off two minutes from time for handling McManaman's lob ten yards outside his area.

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): B Gunn; J Culverhouse, J Polston, R Newman, J Woodthorpe; M Bowen, G Megson (sub: S Eadie, 82min), S Howard, D Croft; R Goss, C Sutton.
LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): B Grobbelaar; G Jones, M Wright, D Mulhall, J Scales; S McManaman, R Whelan, N Clough, M Walters; I Rush, J Barnes.
Referee: D Salisbury

STEVE LINDSELL

Peacock suffers a hair-raising experience as the elusive Giggs skips past him en route to a spectacular solo goal at Loftus Road

Bardsley bemused by galloping Giggs

Oliver Holt witnesses another brave yet fruitless attempt to halt the inexorable progress of Manchester United

DAVID Bardsley, the Queens Park Rangers right back, made a brave decision on Saturday and brought his family to Loftus Road. As intended, they saw him head-to-head with Ryan Giggs. Less fortuitously, they witnessed Giggs scoring one of the best goals to grace the ground.

Bardsley did not have a bad game. He tackled well, his distribution was good, his crosses were crisp and curling. But as the game wore on, he came to epitomise the reasons for Manchester United's hegemony this season. He is a good player but has weaknesses, and United exploit weaknesses ruthlessly.

When they are not inspirational, they line their efficiency with flashes of brilliance and that is enough to undermine the majority of teams. Gerry Francis, the Rangers manager, tried to halt their unbeaten run, which now stretches to 30 games after the 3-2 victory, by attacking them. But each time his team had United on the ropes, they ducked clear and unleashed knockout blows.

Three times, they surged down the left into Bardsley's channel. Three times, concisely and confidently, they scored. First, Kanchelskis took Schmeichel's long throw in his stride, stepped inside the full back and stroked the ball inside Stejskal's left-hand post to put United ahead in the eighteenth minute.

Next, on the stroke of half-time, Irwin blasted a free kick against the wall, collected the ricochet, showed too much of the ball to Bardsley but took it around him anyway and then delivered a left-foot cross from the byline that any winger would have been proud of. Cantona was lurking at the back post to nod home.

Then there was Giggs. He stole the ball from Holloway midway inside the Rangers half and set off for goal. He swerved right, then left, past befuddled defenders, balance and speed personified, before dispatching his shot past Stejskal. It surpassed his solo effort against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane last season.

A penalty from Wilson and a powerful drive from Ferdinand kept Rangers in it but United seemed capable of raising the tempo when they needed to. It was not a great performance but was enough to keep them 13 points clear at the top. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, scanned the other results for possible danger but stopped only midway down the Endsleigh Insurance League first division. "That's some result for Barnsley," he said.

He offered little hope to Blackburn Rovers, United's closest pursuers. "Lee Sharpe is on holiday at the moment, recovering from injury, lucky lad," he said. "But he should be fit to play in a month and will be coming back at just the right time, at the beginning of March, when things are starting to get serious. It will be nice to have a fresh player for the run-in."

Francis ground his teeth and pointed the finger at his back four. "I am pretty disappointed that we did not get anything out of the game," he said. "We matched them in everything except defensive concentration. They are one of the best sides in Europe going forward on the counter-attack and that is where they caught us."

Bardsley took his shell-shocked family for a drink in the players' lounge and shrugged off his role as one of the guilty men. "I thought I kept Ryan reasonably quiet," he said. "I have played against United several times now and I always have some of my best games against them.

"It is a challenge to play against them, a chance to go out there and show people what you can do. It is a test but I don't do anything different to prepare for Giggs. I respect him and I hope the feeling is mutual.

"He is a super player and I prefer playing against Lee Sharpe than against him. With Sharpe, he gets the ball and sets off down the line, but you never know whether Ryan is going to cut inside. The only way you can stop him is hope he has a bad game."

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): J Stejskal — D Bardsley, D Peacock, S Yates, C Wilson — R Willems, S Barker, I Holloway, T Sinclair (sub: M Meaker, 86min) — L Ferdinand, G Penrice
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-2-4): P Schmeichel — P Parker, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin — P Ince, R Keane — E Cantona, M Hughes, R Giggs, A Kanchelskis
Referee: G Poll

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Manchester Utd	28	67	+32	DDWWW
2	Blackburn	26	54	+19	WWWWW
3	Arsenal	27	46	+17	WWDDD
4	Newcastle	26	45	+20	LWWWL
5	Liverpool	27	44	+12	WDWWD
6	Sheffield Wed	28	43	+15	WWLWW
7	Leeds	27	43	+10	DDDLL
8	Aston Villa	26	41	+4	WLWDW
9	Norwich	26	40	+10	WLDDD
10	QPR	27	39	+6	LDLWL
11	West Ham	27	35	-10	LWDLD
12	Coventry	27	34	-4	DLLWL
13	Wimbledon	26	33	-9	DLWDL
14	Ipswich	27	32	-7	LDDLL
15	Everton	28	31	-8	LLWLW
16	Tottenham	28	30	-1	LLLLL
17	Chelsea	26	26	-9	WWDDL
18	Manchester City	26	24	-10	DLDLW
19	Southampton	27	24	-12	DLWWL
20	Oldham	27	23	-24	LLLDW
21	Sheffield Utd	27	22	-20	LWDLL
22	Swindon	28	22	-31	LDLWW

Weekly change Up Stayed the same Down

Lawrence invigorates fading Middlesbrough

Middlesbrough 4
Millwall 2

By Louise Taylor

LENNIE Lawrence knew that nothing less than victory at Avresome Park yesterday would rekindle his team's fast-fading hopes of a first division play-off place. The Middlesbrough manager was also acutely aware that defeat could cost him his job.

Happily for one of football's most honest managers, that vital win was secured — and against a fourth-placed Millwall who had led at half-time.

Middlesbrough had gone ahead when Thatcher was harshly adjudged to have pushed Moore just outside the area. Hignett crashed the free kick beyond Keller's grasp. Then the Teessiders pressed the self-destruct button, experiencing what Lawrence referred to as "one of our little lapses".

First, the impressive Verveer was felled by Peake and Rae, another very useful midfield player, squeezed the penalty just inside a post to equalise. Next Verveer's run went unchecked and an unmarked Moralee deftly controlled the ball before shooting Millwall ahead.

By now, the "Lawrence Must Go" banners had been unfurled and the manager admitted that dark thoughts flitted through his mind at half-time. Fortunately, his team-talk came straight out of the school of positive thought and Hignett duly levelled the score.

His goal came when Mustoe's eye for an accurate long, low pass again paid dividends, confounding the Millwall defence. The ball was met by Moore, who seemed to have been foiled by Keller, but his persistence prompted Millwall's American goalkeeper into dropping the ball, which spun free for Hignett to follow up.

Now, it was all Middlesbrough and when Rae fouled Moore — proving an increasing menace — Mustoe's free kick was headed home by Vickers.

Wilkinson played a big part in that goal by distracting defenders with sterling decoy work at the set-piece. The centre forward was rewarded with Middlesbrough's fourth goal, shot home from close range. Significantly, it originated with Wright on the left.

Restored to the first team after missing five months because of injury, Wright's presence on that left flank added much needed balance to the side, complementing some outstanding work from Hignett on the right.

When Pollock, Middlesbrough's most important player, returns from suspension to perform the David Batty role in midfield and John Hendrie recovers from injury to resume in attack, Middlesbrough might just be strong enough to mount a late challenge for the play-offs.

Millwall, though, have a much better chance of making them. They must, however, be mindful of their manager. Mick McCarthy's warning. "Everyone says how well we pass," he said. "But to pass you first need to win the ball." For four-fifths of yesterday's match, Millwall neglected to do so.

At least Lawrence provided reassuring evidence that he has not forgotten how to motivate Middlesbrough. Far from it.

"Psychologically I was very pleased with the performance and my players," he said. "They showed a mental toughness which has been lacking this season. I was worried about their spirit at half-time and knew in the present situation we couldn't afford to lose heavily, but that spirit was very strong after the break."

More performances like this and the manager's critics will have little option but to burn their banners.

MIDDLESBROUGH (4-4-2): S Pears; C Fleming, S Vickers, D Whyte, R Liburd; C Hignett, A Peake, R Mustoe, T Wright, P Wilkinson, A Moore
MILLWALL (4-4-2): K Keller; R Hurlord, K Cunningham, K Stevens, B Thatcher; A Roberts, A Rae, E Verveer, P Barber; J Moralee, J Kerr (sub: B Murray, 65min)
Referee: D Allison

Hignett: equaliser

هكذا من الاصل

Bohinen leads Forest to new heights

Nottingham Forest 4
Leicester City 0

By Keith Pike

THE cream of the first division is rising towards the top. Seventeenth in the table three months ago, Nottingham Forest yesterday claimed third place by virtue of their biggest win, and most compelling performance, of the season.

Leicester City, their East Midlands neighbours and promotion rivals, finished with ten men, their spirits crushed, and grateful only that the margin of defeat was not greater. They will do well to recover from such a mauling.

Forest's steady process during an unbeaten league run now standing at 13 matches had not convinced everybody. There were doubts that, in the prolonged absence of the injured Collymore, they would score the goals their approach play merited; reservations, too, about their ability to last the course on a City Ground pitch that saps strength from the legs and pace off the ball. Both questions were answered in emphatic style.

The goals were spread between Gemmill, who got the first two, Glover and Woan. But Leicester's main tormentor was the Norweigan, Lars Bohinen, who glided over the heavily sanded surface like a Brazilian on a beach, the ball being continuously carried past bemused defenders with no apparent effort. Bohinen, who scored one of the goals that helped eliminate England from the World Cup, was joined on this occasion by his compatriot, Haaland, who was making his debut at centre half in the absence of the flu-stricken Cooper. He also gave an exemplary display. Forest, though, hardly had to worry about defence such was their dominance. Crossley was not forced into a single save as the red shirts piled forward from the start.

Leicester's resistance was eroded from the 28th minute, when Gemmill poached an opportunist opener. Poole, who found Glover bearing down on him as Grayson's back-pass forced him on to his wrong foot, his right, succeeded only in clearing to the Scot, who floated the ball back past him from 25 yards.

Had they reached half-time only 1-0 down Leicester might have rallied. As it was, they carelessly conceded a second to Gemmill in injury time, Bohinen and Lyttle combining to force an error out of Mills.

Bohinen was by now rampant, once juggling the ball in the corner for what seemed an age as three defenders stood open-mouthed, once powering through the middle to loft a shot against Poole's upright with the goalkeeper motionless. Strangely, he was not involved in Forest's two second-half goals.

The first of those was dispatched on the turn by Glover from ten yards after Forest had carved Leicester open for the umpteenth time, the next rifled in with aplomb by Woan from an angle on the left after Glover's initial shot rebounded to him. "We have passed it around as well as that before this season but this time we took our chances," Frank Clark, the Forest manager, said.

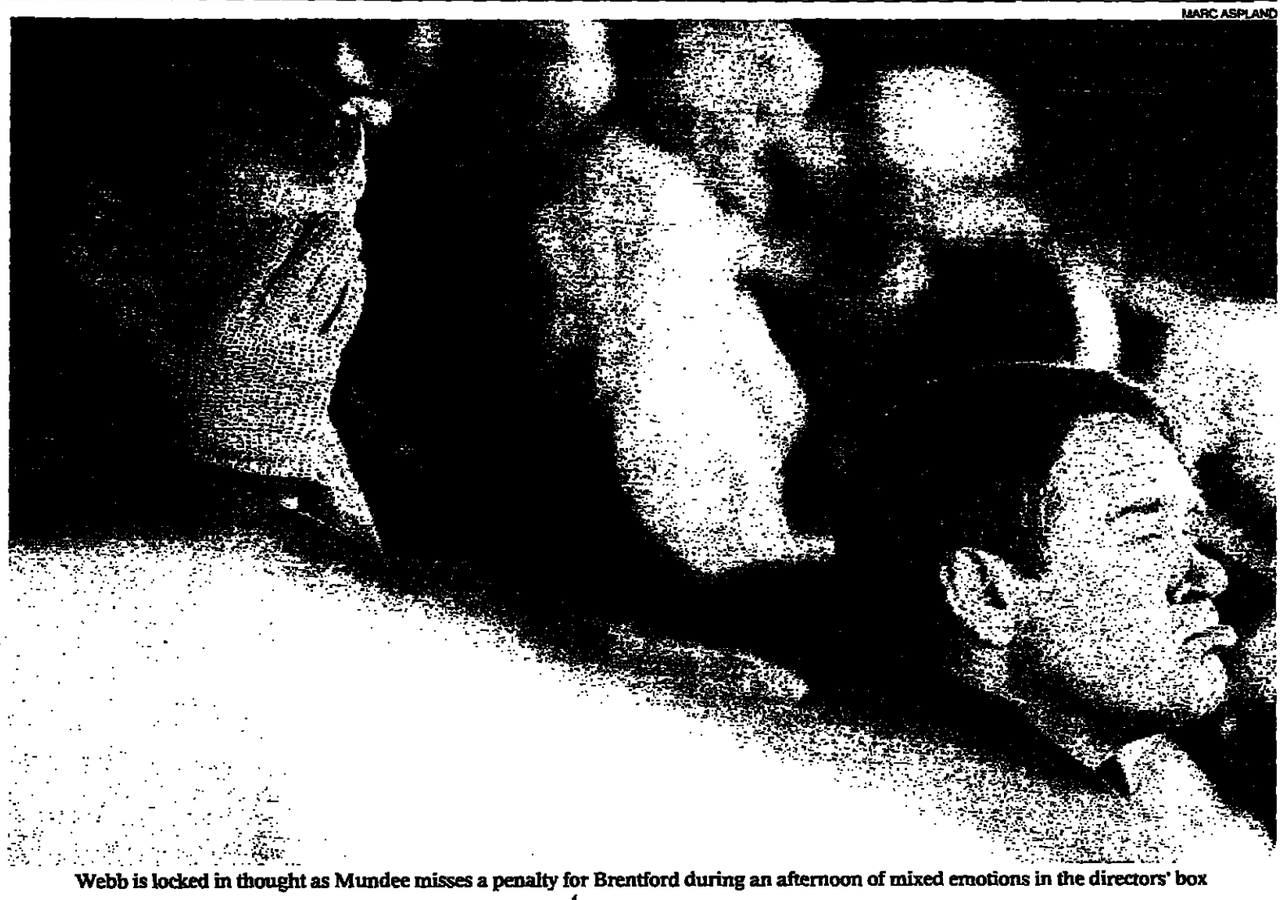
It all got too much for Hill, the Leicester defender. He had been a spectator when four players were booked after an ugly second-half skirmish sparked by Roberts's elbows-first challenge on Chettle but, having joined them for a foul on Gemmill in the 72nd minute, Hill was dismissed 11 minutes later for tripping Bohinen.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-1-4-1): M Crossley; D Lyttle, A I Haaland, S Chettle, S Pearce, D Phillips, S Stone, L Bohinen, S Gemmill, I Woan, L Glover.
LEICESTER CITY (4-4-2): K Poole; G Mills, S Grayson, C Hill, M Whitlow, S Agnew, S Thompson, D Oakes, N Lewis (sub: D Lowe 45 min), I Roberts, J Joachim.
Referee: R Biggs

Brentford offers safe haven in web of intrigue

Peter Robinson talks with the Brentford manager about plans past and present

MARC ASPLAND



Webb is locked in thought as Mundee misses a penalty for Brentford during an afternoon of mixed emotions in the directors' box

David Webb could have been at Goodison Park on Saturday. He could have been managing Chelsea, building on the trial spell he had with the club towards the end of last season and trying to restore the former glories he knew there as a player. In the event, it was not to be.

Last May, on the day he might have hoped to take the helm permanently at Stamford Bridge, he instead quietly emptied his desk, packed his belongings into his car and waited for the letter that said his trial period was over, thankyou and goodbye. Webb knew it was coming and, after the deed was done, he said farewell and headed home.

Twenty minutes later, driving through London, his car phone rang. The conversation went something like this: "Hello, it's Martin Lange, the chairman of Brentford. I hear you and Chelsea have parted company."

"Blimey, your information's good. It only happened a few minutes ago but, yes, we have. What can I do for you?"

"How do you want to go and work for a decent chairman?"

"Maybe."

"Where are you now?"

"I am just driving home, along the Embankment."

"Well, why don't you come down to my office, it's just down the road. Come now. We'll talk." He did, they did and Webb and Brentford have not looked back since.

If losing the chance to manage Chelsea still hurts, then Webb hides it well. He describes himself as "relaxed" and looks it, almost unbelievably so, in a job — manager of a professional football club — that can reduce its incumbents to a tangle of twitches, stutters, nervous sideways glances and seething mistrust. If there is any pressure on him at Brentford, the kind that would certainly have rested on his shoulders at, say, Chelsea, it does not show.

For that, Webb has Lange to thank. For over an hour after the run-of-the-mill 1-1 draw with York City on Saturday, he sat happily discussing himself, his club, the recent past and the possibilities of the future. "The chairman" earned a mention in every other sentence, each time approvingly. "He is the best chairman I have ever worked with. If there was a transfer market for chairmen, he would be near the top of every manager's list."

High praise indeed but Lange has done plenty to earn his manager's respect. First, he moved with dizzying speed when Webb and Chelsea parted company; then, when Webb tried to dismiss a player for an incident in training, only for a Football League appeals committee to overrule him, Lange ignored his manager's principled offer of resignation and backed his actions to the hilt. Most recently, last month, when Southampton asked if they could approach Webb to replace the ousted Ian Branfoot, the chairman told them "No" and then gave Webb the Southampton chairman's telephone number anyway.

It was a shrewd move. Webb always prefers to make up his own mind, spoke to Southampton, thought about the offer and turned it down. "In the end," he said, "there were too many things in my favour at Brentford." Things like peace of mind, a club with potential, the ability to make decisions without unwanted input from elsewhere and a wealthy, supportive chairman who happens to live several thousand miles away in Florida. That last fact alone will have other managers thinking: "If only."

While Lange thinks big for the future — with, for example, ambitious plans for a multi-purpose stadium with a retractable roof — Webb is sorting out the present. With a team brought together in the aftermath of a summer clear-out, Brentford are challenging for promotion from the Endsleigh Insurance League second division. Saturday was not one of their better days but there was enough to keep spectators happy, if not a manager.

There was a penalty appeal wrongly ignored when Barnes was pulled down; a smart goal from Barnes to give York the lead; a missed penalty by Mundee; a dreadful header by Barnes that would have all but ensured a win for the visitors; and then, with 13 minutes left, an equaliser from Mundee, toe-poked in from a yard.

Webb shrugged it all off. "I got promotion for Southend, in two spells, and Bournemouth," he said. "I'm doing the same things here that I did there and I know there is nothing I can do to make it happen any quicker. There is no need to panic." No need, no likelihood and no wistful glances down the A4 towards Stamford Bridge, either.

BRENTFORD (4-4-2): K Dearden — B Statham, S Westley, J Bates, M Grainger — L Harvey, P Smith, S Ratcliffe, P Stephenson — D Mundee, M Gayle.
YORK CITY (4-4-2): D Kiely — A McMillan, S Tuthill, P Stancliffe, A Canham — J McCarthy, S Bushell, G Swann, I Blackstone — P Barnes, S Cooper.
Referee: M Bailey.

Rangers see signs that patience may be rewarded

KEVIN McCARRA

Scottish commentary

Foreign players remain distant even when they are present. A little over 20 years ago, the exquisite Hungarian midfielder, Zoltan Varga, was fleetingly on Aberdeen's books. Before each match, he would avoid the kick-in and instead find a quiet spot to go through some calisthenics. It was an image that seemed to sum up the life of the import — remote from our practices, mind tuned to a different frequency.

Scottish football has had a cosmopolitan element for decades. The Second World War even brought a scattering of Polish servicemen to excel in the Highland league. In the Sixties there was a fad for Scandinavians and yet, while the overseas skills stand out, the newcomers themselves are rarely assimilated.

Events in the Tayside derby on Saturday encapsulated the problem. Dundee's equaliser in the 1-1 draw with United was devised and executed by Dragutin Ristic.

The Croatian flipped the ball forward before haring into space to receive a through-pass from a Dane, Morten Wieghorst, and finish methodically. There was, however, one jarring aspect amid all the smoothness.

Ristic featured only as a substitute. The manager, Jim Duffy, had placed his initial trust in less gifted but more reliable personnel. Many would argue that in such circumstances it is British football, rather than the foreign player, that has failed. In abject tones, the British confess that they are unworthy of the men who deign to come to these shores and collect great wads of dosh.

Our game, people sigh, is too crude, too hasty. Even if the native version of the sport is flawed, though, cringing apologies are still excessive. Perhaps it is genetic or maybe there is just a need to ward off the cold, but unceasing activity typifies British football. Even the customary 4-4-2 tactics of these islands seems designed to pitch all the outfield players at one another and prevent lulls. The inclusion of a sweeper would stretch the play out and slow the tempo.

This vitality, so long as it does not exclude accuracy, is scarcely a flaw. Liverpool drummed its virtues into the heads of the continent's leading clubs while dominating the European Cup in the early Eighties. Surging play, however, does require that each member of the team steep himself in the emotions of the contest.

Some of the foreign players have been reluctant to do more than dip a toe in such stormy waters. Only after 2½ years with Rangers is Alexei Mikhailichenko, the Ukrainian, beginning to suggest that he is in the swim of things. His previous club, Sampdoria, off-loaded him following a single season in Italy's Serie A, but the Scottish champions' patience with the midfield player could be on the verge of being rewarded.

His prowess is obvious. The morale of the Soviet Union squad at the 1990 World Cup finals never recovered from the news that Mikhailichenko would be missing through injury. In the premier division, however, there has always been the suspicion that some crucial element of this expressive player had been lost in translation to Scotland.

Often, he has been a flickering, if bright, light when chosen for the Rangers' first team. On Saturday, however, he illuminated a great deal of the 5-1 victory over Partick Thistle that put his club clear at the top of the table. It could just be that the passions of the Scottish game have infiltrated his soul.

His face does not have a frantic expression in its repertoire, but one game in last season's Champions League hinted at his real capabilities. Mikhailichenko was full of endeavour (and even tackling) against CSKA Moscow in the match played in Bochum, Germany.

He may now possess a sharper sense of Scottish football's own rivalries. For a footballer in a new country, it can be as important to make enemies as friends.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Carling Premiership

BLACKBURN (3) 3 WIMBLEDON (0) 0
Shearer 7 (pen), Wilcox 30, Ripley 39 — 16,215
EVERTON (3) 4 CHELSEA (1) 2
Ebbrell 5, Rideout 26, 39, Angell 85 — Stein 24, 86 (pen)
MAN CITY (1) 2 IPSWICH (1) 1
Griffiths 32, Flitcroft 73 — Marshall 16 — 28,188
NORWICH (1) 2 LIVERPOOL (0) 2
Sutton 12, 63 — Culkenhouse 53 (og), Barnes 76 — 19,746
OLDHAM (2) 2 SOTON (1) 1
McCarthy 33, Bernard 39 — Le Tissier 26 — 9,982
QPR (1) 2 MAN UTD (2) 3
Wilson 44 (pen), Ferdinand 65 — Kanchelskis 18, Cantona 45, Giggs 59 — 21,267
SWINDON (2) 3 COVENTRY (0) 1
Fjortoft 8, 35 (pen) 79 (pen) — Dublin 53 — 14,640
TOTTENHAM (0) 1 SHEFF WED (1) 3
Rosenthal 66 — Coleman 17, Bright 54, 62 — 23,078

Yesterday

A VILLA (0) 1 LEEDS (0) 0
Townsend 70 — 26,919

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Man Utd	26	9	5	0	26	10	11	2	1	31	15	57
2 Blackburn	26	9	3	2	21	9	7	3	2	18	11	54
3 Arsenal	27	7	5	2	18	9	5	5	3	13	5	46
4 Newcastle	26	7	5	3	25	10	6	3	4	20	15	45
5 Liverpool	27	8	4	2	26	16	4	4	5	20	18	44
6 Sheff Wed	26	6	6	2	30	17	5	4	5	22	20	43
7 Leeds	27	8	3	1	24	13	3	7	5	15	16	43
8 A Villa	26	6	2	5	14	12	5	6	2	17	15	41
9 Norwich	26	3	5	4	10	12	7	5	2	32	20	40
10 QPR	27	6	3	4	25	18	5	3	6	17	18	39
11 West Ham	27	5	4	5	16	16	4	5	6	10	19	35
12 Coventry	27	5	6	3	12	11	3	4	6	16	21	34
13 Wimbledon	26	5	4	4	16	15	3	5	5	11	21	33
14 Ipswich	27	4	6	4	12	15	3	5	5	11	15	32
15 Everton	26	6	1	7	20	22	3	3	8	12	18	31
16 Tottenham	26	3	5	6	20	21	4	4	6	16	16	30
17 Chelsea	26	5	4	4	14	12	1	4	8	11	22	28
18 Man City	26	3	6	4	14	16	2	3	8	9	17	24
19 Soton	27	5	1	7	18	18	2	2	10	11	21	24
20 Oldham	27	3	4	6	15	25	2	4	8	7	21	23
21 Shefl Utd	27	4	6	4	14	15	0	5	9	5	27	22
22 Swindon	26	4	4	7	17	29	0	6	7	14	33	22

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES:

Aran Lido 2 Aberystwyth 4; Briton Ferry 2 Inter Cardiff 9, Haverfordwest 1 Ebbw Vale 1; Maesteg Park 0 Ton Pentre 1; Newtown 2 Conwy 0; Bangor 1 Flint Town 0.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: First round:

Ards 9 Queens University 2; Ballyclare 3 H & W Welders 2 (aet); Banbridge Town 1 Distillery 2; Bangor 1 Loughgall 0; Chimney Corner 0 Newry 4; Cliftonville 5 Brantwood 1; Coleraine 4 Dundela 0; Crusaders 5 Cookstown United 0; Dungannon Swifts 0 Portadown 2; Glentoran 5 Ballymoney United 2 (aet); Larne 4 Armagh City 2 (aet); Limavady United 4 Carrick 2; Linfield 5 Moyola Park 0; RUC 2 Omagh Town 1; Tobermore United 0 Ballymena 0 (aet; Tobermore win 5-4 on pens).

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE:

Premier division: Bishop Auckland 0 Accrington Stanley 0; Buxton 3 Bridlington Town 1; Chorley 4 Hyde 2; Colwyn Bay 0 Leek 1; Droylsden 1 Horwich 2; Fleetwood 1 Boston 3; Frickley 2 Winsford 2; Gainsborough 2 Barrow 1; Marine 0 Whitley Bay 3; Matlock 2 Knowsley United 2; Morecambe 1 Emley 0. First division: Altrincham 1 Warrington 4; Ashton United 1 Spennymoor 2; Caernarfon 2 Workington 1; Congleton 3 Bamber Bridge 0; Great Harwood 0 Goole 2; Grantham 2 Farsley Celtic 0; Guiseley 3 Mossley 2; Lancaster City 5 Curzon Ashton 2; Netherfield 0 Eastwood Town 1; Radcliffe Borough 5 Worksop 2.

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 PETERBORO (0) 0
15,140
BOLTON (0) 3 WATFORD (0) 1
Coyle 57, Walaron 64 (og), McAllister 83 (pen) — Ingloldsby 73 — 10,150
BRISTOL C (0) 2 TRANMERE (0) 0
Tinnion 73, Allison 83 — 8,171
CHARLTON (0) 0 GRIMSBY (0) 1
7,598 — Mendonca 66
C PALACE (0) 1 DERBY (0) 1
Gordon 89 — Charles 74 — 15,615
LUTON (2) 3 OXFORD UTD (0) 0
Oakes 42, Thomas 44, Thorpe 77 — 7,356
PORTSMOUTH (0) 0 NOTTS CO (0) 0
9,359
SOUTHEND (0) 0 BARNSLEY (0) 3
4,101 — Eadon 85, Redfearn 87, Rammell 90
STOKE (0) 1 WOLVERHAMPTON (1) 1
Overson 53 — Bliss 37 — 22,579
WEST BROM (2) 2 SUNDERLAND (0) 1
Donovan 3, Feston 16 — Goodman 83 — 17,089

Yesterday

MIDDLESBRO (1) 4 MILLWALL (2) 2
Hignett 33 60, Vickers 84, Wilkinson 87 — Rae 41 (pen), Morafes 45 — 6,286
NOTTM FOR (2) 4 LEICESTER (0) 0
Bazeley 23, 44, Glover 69 Woan 79 — 26,615

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 C Palace	28	10	3	1	27	12	8	2	5	22	21	53
2 Charlton	28	10	2	3	23	9	4	4	5	12	17	48
3 Notts For	27	8	3	2	22	14	7	2	4	23	16	47
4 Millwall	28	9	4	1	24	10	4	4	6	15	22	47
5 Leicester	28	9	4	1	34	18	4	3	7	13	18	46
6 Tranmere	28	9	2	3	27	15	4	4	7	12	20	45
7 Derby	28	10	0	3	30	17	3	4	8	14	25	43
8 Wolves	28	7	8	1	24	12	3	7	4	19	16	43
9 Stoke	28	9	2	3	22	14	3	5	6	16	26	43
10 Bolton	28	7	5	2	24	15	4	4	7	15	18	42
11 Bristol C	28	7	4	4	19	15	4	4	6	13	18	41
12 Southend	29	7	3	5	25	19	5	1	8	19	23	40
13 Portsmouth	28	6	5	3	17	12	3	6	5	14	22	38
14 Middlesbro	27	6	5	3	22	11	3	5	5	16	19	37
15 Hull Co	28	9	1	3	24	15	2	3	10	14	32	37
16 Sunderland	28	8	1	4	21	13	2	3	9	9	23	37
17 Luton	27	8	0	5	23	14	2	5	7	12	20	35
18 Grimsby	28	3	8	1	18	10	4	4	7	18	22	34
19 Watford	29	6	4	4	28	23	2	3	10	17	34	31
20 West Brom	29	6	6	3	27	20	1	3	10	14	27	30
21 Birmingham	29	6	6	4	17	17	1	2	10	12	26	29
22 Barnsley	28	3	3	8	13	21	4	4	6	21	24	28
23 Oxford Utd	29	5	3	6	19	23	1	5	9	13	30	26
24 Peterboro	27	4	6	4	15	12	1	3	9	9	22	24

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE:

First division: Bacup Borough 2 Penrith 1; Bootle 0 Newcastle Town 0; Bradford Park Avenue 2 Burscough 2; Chadderton 1 Darwen 2; Eastwood Hanley 1 Salford 1; Kidsgrove Athletic 0 Prescot 0; Nantwich 1 Glossop North End 0.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE:

Premier division: Fakenham 1 Tiptree 1; Great Yarmouth 2 Comard 1; Heverhill 2 Gorleston 1; Histon 1 Chatteris 0; March 1 Lowestoft 2; Newmarket 2 Halstead 2, Soham TR 2 Harwich and Parkeston 2; Stowmarket 1 Wroxham 2; Sudbury 2 Felixstowe 1; Wisbech 2 Watton 0.

FRENCH LEAGUE:

Paris Saint Germain 3 Angers 0; Marseilles 0 Lyons 1; Auxerre 1 Sochaux 0; Lens 2 Metz 0; Le Havre 0 Montpellier 0; Cannes 3 Caen 0; Saint Etienne 0 Marseilles 0; Nantes 2 Lille 0; Monaco 2 Strasbourg 1. Leading positions (after 25 matches): 1, Paris Saint-Germain, 40 points; 2, Marseilles, 35; 3, Bordeaux, 30.

Second division

BLACKPOOL (1) 1 EXETER (0) 0
Bamber 11 — 3,747
BOURNEMOUTH (1) 1 L ORIENT (1) 1
O'Connor 37 — Pennock 26 (og) — 4,084
BRADFORD (2) 2 HARTLEPOOL (0) 1
Robson 30, Tolson 36 — Thompson 72 — 7,907
BRENTFORD (0) 1 YORK (1) 1
Mundee 78 — Barnes 33 — 5,710
CAMBRIDGE UTD (1) 1 BARNET (1) 1
Heathcote 41 — Gibson 26 — 3,473
CARDIFF (2) 5 WREXHAM (1) 1
Adams 30, Richardson 39, Bird 55, Blake 61, 63 — Baddeley 1 (og) — 10,847
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 BURNLEY (0) 1
Onoura 77 — Deary 53 — 10,634
HULL (0) 0 SWANSEA (0) 1
4,668 — Chapple 88
PLYMOUTH (2) 3 BRISTOL R (3) 3
Marshall 13, Dalton 28, Evans 76 — Skinner 11, Archer 24, Sterling 33 — 13,318
READING (0) 1 PORT VALE (2) 2
Quinn 65 (pen) — Foyle 3, Kent 10 — 7,645
ROTHERHAM (0) 0 BRIGHTON (0) 1
3,773 — Codner 68
STOCKPORT (1) 2 FULHAM (2) 4
Francis 20, Preece 68 — Eckhardt 33, 57, Bozzi 45, 85 — 5,488

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Reading	29	11	3	1	30	11	6	4	4	26	19	58
2 Stockport	26	11	0	3	33	13	4	5	3	12	13	50
3 Bristol R	28	6	6	2	20	14	8	2	4	19	17	50
4 Plymouth	26	9	4	1	31	17	5	3	4	20	18	49
5 Burnley	28	11	1	2	32	13	3	4	7	15	21	47
6 Brentford	29	7	5	3	20	13	5	5	3	17	12	47
7 Port Vale	28	8	3	1	28	11	5	2	5	16	16	46
8 Hull	29	6	5	4	22	15	5	2	6	20	25	43
9 Bradford	28	8	3	4	23	14	4	4	5	15	21	43
10 York	29	5	5	4	17	11	6	3	6	22	18	41
11 L Orient	29	7	5	2	22	14	3	4	6	15	27	39
12 Cambridge	29	6	5	4	22	15	4	3	7	19	28	38
13 Blackpool	30	9	2	5	28	24	2	2	10	16	29	37
14 Bournemouth	26	5	4	5	17	18	4	5	3	14	13	36
15 Huddersfld	27	4	5	4	14	17	4	4	6	15	17	33
16 Fulham	29	3	4	7	10	14	6	1	9	23	21	32
17 Swansea	28	5	5	2	18	12	3	3	8	11	23	32
18 Cardiff	26	6	4	3	26	16	1	6	5	15	25	31
19 Wrexham	26	7	3	2	30	18	1	4	9	11	29	31
20 Brighton	28	4	6	4	18	16	3	4	7	12	25	31
21 Rotherham	28	5	3	5	21	20	2	4	7	13	22	29
22 Exeter	28	5	3	4	25	21	1	4	8	7	26	25
23 Hartlepool	29	4	2	7	13	18	1	4	11	10	26	21
24 Barnet	27	1	3	9	11	20	1	4	9	14	34	13

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Lancing 0 Carthusians 1. First division: Ardinians 0 Aldenhamians 5.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Elmore 2 Calne 2; Exmouth 0 Mangotsfield 1, Frome Town 0 Crediton 1; Saltash United 0 Poulton 2.

Third division

CARLISLE (0) 0 NORTHAMPTON (0) 1
4,535 — Chard 62
CHESTER (1) 1 MANSFIELD (0) 1
Lancashire 6 — Wilkinson 58 — 2,664
CHESTERFIELD (1) 2 LINCOLN (0) 2
Norris 5 (pen), Law 57 — Brown 59, Loughlin 67 — 3,104
DONCASTER (0) 0 SHREWSBURY (0) 0
2,047
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 CREWE (0) 3
Forster 82 — Lemon 61, MacAuley 72, Smith 75 — 3,713
HEREFORD (2) 3 BURY (0) 0
Hall 2, 82, Akinbiyi 20 — 1,605
ROCHDALE (1) 2 PRESTON (1) 1
Stuart 39, Whitehall 46 — Conroy 8 — 4,317
SCARBORO (1) 1 WALSALL (0) 0
Davis 4 — 1,851
SCUNTHORPE (1) 1 TORQUAY (1) 3
Carmichael 32 — Trollope 35, Darby 68, Foster 72 — 2,755
WIGAN (0) 0 COLCHESTER (0) 1
1,695 — Dickens 80

Postponed: Wycombe v Darlington

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Crewe	26	10	2	1	29	13	6	4	3	25	21	54
2 Wycombe	26	8	2	2	22	13	5	6	3	23	22	47
3 Shrewsbry	25	6	4	2	18	12	7	3	2	22	16	46
4 Preston	25	8	3	2	22	17	4	4	4	23	23	43
5 Chester	26	5	5	2	14	9	7	2	5	27	20	43
6 Walsall	27	6	3	5	21	16	6	4	3	12	13	43
7 Torquay	27	4	8	2	21	19	6	3	4	22	20	41
8 Rochdale	29	9	3	2	28	18	3	4	5	15	15	43
9 Bury	27	7	3	2	25	12	4	2	9	14	27	38
10 Scunthorpe	26	6	5	2	27	15	3	4	6	11	14	36
11 Chesterfld	26	6	4	4	21	17	4	2	6	15	24	36
12 Colchester	26	7	3	4	24	21	3	2	7	16	26	35
13 Scarboro	27	5	1	6	16	20	5	4	4	16	17	35
14 Carlisle	27	3	4	6	19	19	5	5	4	14	19	33
15 Doncaster	26	6	3	5	18	18	3	3	8	10	24	33
16 Gillingham	26	6	5	3	19	15	2	3	7	12	25	32
17 Mansfield	26	5	4	4	17	19	2	7	6	14	23	32
18 Lincoln	25	5	3	5	18	20	3	4	5	18	22	31
19 Darlington	27	5	4	5	20	19	1	5	7	11	23	27
20 Wigan	26	3	4	6	22	25	3	3	7	12	23	25
21 Hereford	26	4	3	7	22	21	2	2	8	14	29	23
22 Northampton	26	2	5	4	12	14	1	2	10	12	34	16

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Glasshoughton Wel 1 Eccleshill 1; Lincoln United 2 Stocksbridge PS 1; Liversedge 4 Ashfield 1, Maltby MW 4 Hucknall 1, Ossett Town 1 Brigg 5, Pickering 3 Ossett Albion 1; Sheffield 2 North Ferriby 0; Trackley 4 Denaby 0; Winterton 3 Pontefract Col 2.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division. Danes 0 Tensonians 1; Wilsonians 1 Meadowians 3; Tiffinians 0 Abyssians 2.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street 1 Murton 3, Dunston FB 1 Billingham Synthonia 1; Durham City 2 Consett 4, Ferryhill Athletic 2 Seaham 1, Guisborough 2 West Auckland 2; Hebburn 2 Blyth Spartans 5, Newcastle Blue Star 1 Brandon 2; Northallerton 0 Seaham Red Star 0, Stockton 2 Eppleton CW 1, Whitby 4 Tow Law 2

GM Vauxhall Conference

ALTRINCHAM (1) 2 BROMSGROVE (2) 3
Terry 17, France 57 — Webb 9, Carter 35, Stott 89 — 673
BATH (0) 0 RUNCORN (0) 0
698
GATESHEAD (0) 2 YEOVIL (1) 1
Proudlock 46, 87 — Spencer 42 — 552
KETTERING (2) 3 STALYBRIDGE (1) 2
Oxbrow 20, Clark 36, Martin 67 — Anderson 44, Arnold 73 — 1,949
KIDDERMINSTER (1) 2 DAG & RED (1) 1
Humphreys 15, Davies 55 — Covell 9 — 4,358
MACCLESFIELD (0) 0 NORTHWICH (0) 0
1,141
MERTHYR (4) 5 SLOUGH (1) 1
James 21, Coates 36, 89, Dyer 41, Benbow 42 — Peters 12 — 430
SOUTHPORT (1) 2 WELLING (1) 1
Gamble 32, Cannon 59 — Robbins 1 — 1,115
STAFFORD (0) 1 HALIFAX (1) 1
Mellows 76 — Hemmings 1 (og) — 1,082
TELFORD (0) 2 WOKING (0) 0
Roberts 56, Bryant 66 — 1,222
WYTON (1) 1 DOVER (2) 2
Burks 23 — Lewis 13, Leworthy 24 — 650

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Kidderminsh	25	9	3	2	20	8	4	2	5	16	16	44
2 Southport	25	6	7	1	19	13	5	3	4	18	16	43
3 Kettering	25	5	5	2	13	9	6	4	3	14	8	42
4 Woking	25	6	3	2	22	13	2	6	4	12	20	39
5 Dover	24	9	1	3	23	11	3	1	7	11	18	38
6 Bath	25	4	5	4	22	14	5	2	5	16	10	37
7 Runcorn	25	8	2	2	27	16	0	10	3	14	22	36
8 Welling	24	6	3	4	15	12	3	5	3	14	13	35
9 Merthyr	27	6	7	1	24	11	2	5	6	15	22	34
10 Stalybrd	26	7	5	3	25	16	1	5	5	11	19	34
11 Gateshead	24	6	4	2	16	10	3	3	6	12	27	34
12 Halifax	25	3	7	1	19	10	4	5	5	21	25	33
13 Bromsgrv	22	3	4	3	17	14	6	2	4	20	21	33
14 Telford	24	4	6	2	15	11	4	2	6	11	17	32
15 Slough	26	7	2	4	24	17	1	6	8	9	24	32
16 Macclesfld	24	5	4	4	20	15	4	0	7	12	23	31
17 Yeovil	25	5	2	5	17	14	2	5	6	15	25	28
18 Dag & Red	21	5	3	1	20	10	1	5	6	7	17	26
19 Northwich	23	3	5	2	11	9	2	6	5	7	17	26
20 Wyton

Select an England XI and win a trip to see the Christmas Test in Melbourne

Name your side to triumph in the West Indies

NO CRICKETING environment is more testing than the West Indies. A long line of fearsome fast bowlers has prevented any touring team from winning a series there for 21 years. Michael Atherton is the latest England captain to try to end that record but he is leading an inexperienced England team. Who will flourish and who will flounder?

In *The Times* 1st XI game, you can pick the team you would like to see and measure its performance against the players' real statistics which will be published after every international match in *The Times*. Whether you enter for your own satisfaction or to pit your selection skills against friends or colleagues, the game should add to the excitement of what should be a memorable series. And for those who prove the best at 1st XI cricket, there will be some memorable prizes, including the trip of a lifetime to see England play Australia in the Christmas Test at Melbourne.

The aim of the game: Readers are invited to pick their England cricket XI from the party in the West Indies and estimate the players' individual performances in the five one-day internationals and five Test matches of the tour. The winner of the game will be the person whose predictions are closest to the actual performances of his or her selected eleven players in all ten matches.

The prize: Win the trip of a lifetime for yourself and three family members or friends to see the Christmas Test match between Australia and England, which begins in Melbourne on December 24. We will provide flights, hotel accommodation for two weeks in Melbourne and tickets to each day of the Test match.

Twenty runners-up will each receive a pair of tickets to one of England's six Test matches against New Zealand and South Africa this summer. Full details of this prize will appear this week in *The Times*.

What to do: Simply study the 17 names of the England tour party printed on the 1st XI bat. You may like to refer to their Test and one-day averages, with their records against West Indies, which are also provided below. Then select your XI, bearing in mind that you must pick six from the batsman category and four from the bowler category. You must also pick one of the wicketkeepers, Stewart or Russell, and designate him as wicketkeeper. Whichever of these two players you do not choose as your wicketkeeper, you may nominate as one of your six batsmen. When you telephone your entry, **you will be asked for your wicketkeeper selection first.** You may not pick any player twice.

For each of your eleven players, you will be asked to give your predictions of the total number of runs they will make in the international matches (five Test matches and five one-day internationals, which allows a maximum of 15 innings), and then the total number of wickets they will take.

In the case of the designated wicketkeeper, catches and stumpings will count as wickets. When you call *The Times* 1st XI number, you will be asked to express each selection numerically. For example, if you have selected Alec Stewart as your wicketkeeper, and are predicting that he will score 350 runs and take 25 wickets, your entry would read:

02 350 25

Throughout the period of international matches, *The Times* will print the running totals of all 17 players. After April 21, the last day of the fifth Test, the final totals of each player will be compared to readers' individual selections.

The difference between predicted totals for each player in each category and their actual totals will be measured in points: one point for each run, and 20 points for each wicket, regardless of whether you have underestimated or overestimated. Three examples of how predictions would be measured are given below. The winner will be the reader with the fewest points.

No allowance can be made if a player is injured or sent home for any reason, nor for loss of play due to weather conditions or any other external factors. Readers should bear these points in mind when making selections. No substitutions will be allowed.

The closing date for telephone entries is noon on Wednesday, February 16, the day of the opening one-day international in Barbados.

You can enter as many times as you like, but each entry requires a separate telephone call. You can enter on your own, with your family (up to a maximum of four people) or a joint team (maximum of four) with your friends, **but all callers must be aged 18 or over.**

When you have selected your team, check what type of telephone you are using. You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You **cannot** enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. Once you have found a Touch-tone telephone, you can enter by dialling **0891 500 103.** The lines are open now. Then just follow the simple step-by-step instructions on the line. Listen carefully and take your time. The recorded message will ask you to key in the full set of selections (player reference number, number of runs, number of wickets) for each of your 11 chosen players in turn, starting with the designated wicketkeeper.

You will then be asked to record your name, address and daytime phone number. Finally, you will be given an eight-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN). You will need this if you are a winner. If you cannot get through, please be patient. You have plenty of time to make your entry. Use *The Times* 1st XI bat to record your selections and your PIN.

Only readers in the Republic of Ireland and elsewhere outside the United Kingdom and Channel Islands may enter by post.

Complete *The Times* 1st XI bat and send it, with your name and address and daytime telephone number, to:
The Times 1st XI,
PO Box 1803,
London NW1 8QN.

Entries must arrive by first post on February 16.

KEY DATES

Feb 18: First one-day international (Barbados)
Feb 19-24: First Test (Jamaica)
Feb 26: Second one-day international (Jamaica)
Mar 2: Third one-day international (St Vincent)
Mar 5: Fourth one-day international (Trinidad)
Mar 6: Fifth one-day international (Trinidad)
Mar 17-22: Second Test (Guyana)
Mar 25-30: Third Test (Trinidad)
Apr 8-13: Fourth Test (Barbados)
Apr 16-21: Fifth Test (Antigua)

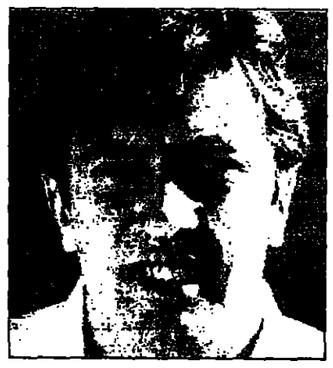
THREE EXAMPLES OF HOW PREDICTIONS WOULD BE MEASURED

Player: Jack Russell (wicketkeeper)

Predicted runs	350
Actual runs	275
Difference	75
Points (75 x 1)	75
Predicted wickets (catches and stumpings)	25
Actual wickets	22
Difference	3
Points (3 x 20)	60
TOTAL POINTS (75 + 60)	135

Player: Mark Ramprakash (batsman)

Predicted runs	450
Actual runs	560
Difference	110
Points (110 x 1)	110
Predicted wickets	0
Actual wickets	2
Difference	2
Points (2 x 20)	40
TOTAL POINTS (110 + 40)	150



Player: Ian Salisbury (bowler)

Predicted runs	60
Actual runs	108
Difference	48
Points (48 x 1)	48
Predicted wickets	12
Actual wickets	12
Difference	0
Points (0 x 20)	0
TOTAL POINTS (48 + 0)	48

Atherton will prove himself with the bat

Karen Smithies, who captained England's women to victory in the World Cup last summer, picks her 1st XI to play West Indies

England are going to do well in the Caribbean. West Indies are nothing like as strong as they have been in the recent past, particularly in bowling; England will benefit from the one-bouncer rule; and Michael Atherton will respond well to the responsibility of captaincy. I know that in my case it certainly helped. You have so many other things to think about that you just have to let your talent look after your own performance and as a result you can end up playing a lot better. I have chosen as my 1st XI the team I would like to see playing if I were leading out the side.

I have designated Russell as wicketkeeper for two important reasons. One is that, with England possessing such an inexperienced team, they will need Stewart to concentrate 100 per cent on his batting and vice-captaincy. The other is that the wicketkeeper has a vital role to perform and you need the best man available. If you have someone who is solid and knows exactly what he is doing, as Russell does, the benefit can rub off on the whole team.

For this reason I would like to see Russell play in all the one-day internationals as well as the Test matches, but Atherton may prefer an extra batsman or bowler, so Russell will probably be confined to the five Tests. In these I think he will score 195 runs and take 24 catches.

If Stewart is freed from wearing the gauntlets, he can make the job of his opening partner, Atherton, much easier by contributing tactically and with the bat. They can become a productive partnership, especially if the homework Atherton has done on how to cope with the short-pitched ball reaps its reward, as I think it will. I think Michael will in fact do beter than any other England batsman on the tour, scoring 695 runs in the internationals. Stewart will score 551.

I would play Robin Smith at No 3 because if an early wicket is lost it will require someone with experience to cope with the pressure. Smith, a quality player, can do this perfectly. After what happened to him last year against Kumble and Warne, he will mean business this time and will do almost as well as Atherton, with 660 runs.

The position at No 4 was a toss-up between Ramprakash and Hussain. Hussain scored more county championship hundreds last season than anyone else but I went for Ramprakash partly because he is such an outstanding fielder, which is especially important in the one-day game. He also has a good temperament, and although, like Hussain, he is a fiery character, it looks like he is starting to channel his aggression solely into his game.

My middle order is completed by Hick and Thorpe. Hick, like Atherton, is a good enough batsman to have improved his technique against pace and to this time — I hope — come good.

KAREN SMITHIES' 1st XI

Player	Runs	Wkts
Russell (wk/kpr)	195	24
Stewart	551	0
Atherton	695	0
Smith	660	0
Ramprakash	490	0
Hick	495	3
Thorpe	310	0
Lewis	205	21
Fraser	75	28
Salisbury	46	15
Malcolm	26	22

Thorpe's left-handedness can help to disrupt the line of the West Indian fast bowlers and I was impressed by the way he batted against Australia last summer.

Much will depend on how Lewis performs. He has a potentially match-winning role to play but he has yet to use his great natural talents to the full. If he can avoid injuries — and sunstroke — I see him scoring 205 runs and taking 21 wickets.

A key element in England's bowling could be Salisbury. Although he can spray the ball around, if he gets it right he can turn the ball more than Tufnell and the West Indians do not like spin of any sort.

Atherton should consider bringing on Salisbury as early as he can to allow the leg spinner to exploit the bounce and hardness of the pitches and disrupt the flow of the top-order batsmen, who want and expect to play nothing but pace when they first come in.

I used this tactic with success in the World Cup last summer against Australia and New Zealand, who play on similar surfaces to the West Indians.

It is difficult to predict how Fraser and Malcolm will fare because they may be rested for some, if not all, of the one-day internationals. If England's most important bowlers remain fit for all the Tests, Fraser has the quality to take 28 wickets and Malcolm the zip to take 22. The temptation — and the danger — is to over-bowl both of them. They would benefit from being used in short spells.

Smithies settles to the task of picking her 1st XI to take on the West Indies. Photograph: Marc Aspland

One-day figures can confuse

IN PREDICTING how England's players will perform, it is worth bearing in mind how easily runs and wickets can accrue in the one-day internationals. Batsmen who might struggle in the attritional atmosphere of a Test match, may respond positively to the limited-overs game. Similarly, bowlers can often claim easy wickets towards the closing stages of a one-day innings.

When Australia toured the Caribbean in 1991, Geoff Marsh, the opening batsman, struggled in the Test series. After making half-centuries in the Tests in Jamaica and Guyana, he failed to score more than 12 in any of his final six innings as he fell prey to the new-ball bowlers, in particular Curtly Ambrose, who took his wicket four times. In all, his nine Test innings produced only 226 runs.

In the five one-day internationals, though, it was a different story. Marsh struck a rich vein of form and turned in scores of 26, 23, 81, 113 and 106 not out, for a total of 349 runs, which boosted his aggregate in the ten internationals to 575 — despite a final five weeks of the tour which he would probably prefer to forget.

Part-time bowlers can also pick up an unexpectedly large number of wickets, especially in the one-day matches, as Mark Waugh demonstrated on the 1991 tour. Employed as Australia's fifth bowler in the limited-overs series, he took eight wickets (despite bowling a total of only 27.3 overs) and claimed another eight wickets from 65 overs in the Test matches. Waugh's tally of 523 runs in the internationals may have been predictable, his haul of 16 wickets, less so.

ALL THE FACTS AND FIGURES TO HELP YOU MAKE YOUR 1ST XI CHOICE FOR ENGLAND

Test averages v West Indies

Batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
R C Russell	8	14	1	212	55	16.30	—	1	19
A J Stewart	5	10	2	239	45	29.87	—	—	6
M A Atherton	5	9	0	79	32	8.77	—	—	3
G A Hick	4	7	0	75	43	10.71	—	—	8
N Hussain	3	5	0	100	35	20.00	—	—	1
M P Maynard	1	2	0	13	10	6.50	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	5	9	0	210	29	23.33	—	—	4
R A Smith	10	16	4	708	146*	59.57	2	5	5
G P Thorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R C Fraser	2	2	1	15	11	13.00	—	—	—
A P Igglesden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C C Lewis	2	3	1	126	65	62.50	—	1	3
D E Malcolm	6	9	4	26	12	5.20	—	—	2
I D K Salisbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P C R Tufnell	1	1	0	2	2	2.00	—	—	—
S L Watkin	2	3	0	8	6	2.66	—	—	—

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	Best	5i	10m
R C Russell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A J Stewart	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M A Atherton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G A Hick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N Hussain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M P Maynard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
R A Smith	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G P Thorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R C Fraser	71.1	19	181	11	14.63	5-39	1	—
A P Igglesden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C C Lewis	79	30	201	6	33.50	6-111	1	—
D E Malcolm	204.1	25	757	22	34.40	6-77	1	1
I D K Salisbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P C R Tufnell	60.3	9	175	7	25.00	6-25	1	—
S L Watkin	36	4	163	5	30.60	3-38	—	—

Test career averages

Batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
R C Russell	31	49	10	1060	128*	27.17	1	3	80
A J Stewart	32	60	4	2083	190	37.19	4	11	46/4
M A Atherton	29	55	1	1927	151	35.68	3	15	24
G A Hick	18	31	0	972	178	31.35	1	5	27
N Hussain	7	13	2	294	71	25.81	—	1	3
M P Maynard	3	6	0	53	20	8.66	—	—	2
M R Ramprakash	10	17	1	311	64	19.43	—	1	7
R A Smith	45	84	14	3237	148*	46.24	8	22	31
G P Thorpe	3	6	1	230	114*	46.00	1	1	5
A R Caddick	4	8	1	101	35	14.42	—	—	2
A R C Fraser	12	16	1	129	29	8.60	—	—	2
A P Igglesden	1	1	1	2	2*	—	—	—	1
C C Lewis	20	31	1	771	117	25.70	1	3	18
D E Malcolm	26	37	13	130	15*	5.41	—	—	3
I D K Salisbury	4	7	0	136	50	19.42	—	1	2
P C R Tufnell	15	23	13	56	22*	5.60	—	—	5
S L Watkin	3	5	0	25	13	5.00	—	—	1

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	Best	5i	10m
R C Russell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A J Stewart	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M A Atherton	61	11	282	1	282.00	1-60	—	—
G A Hick	340.5	62	998	14	42.71	4-126	—	—
N Hussain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M P Maynard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	11	0	8	0	—	—	—	—
R A Smith	4	2	6	0	—	—	—	—
G P Thorpe	6	1	14	0	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	153	28	488	5	97.60	3-32	—	—
A R C Fraser	563.3	130	1388	55	25.20	6-82	5	—
A P Igglesden	37	3	146	3	48.66	2-91	—	—
C C Lewis	692	145	2068	52	39.76	6-111	2	—
D E Malcolm	934.3	164	3084	83	37.15	6-77	4	1
I D K Salisbury	132.1	9	536	8	67.00	3-43	—	—
P C R Tufnell	687.2	175	1826	50	36.52	7-47	4	1
S L Watkin	89	17	305	11	27.72	4-65	—	—

One-day averages v West Indies

Batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
R C Russell	10	5	1	58	28	14.50	—	—	8
A J Stewart	7	5	1	33	20	8.25	—	—	4
M A Atherton	3	3	1	168	74	84.00	—	2	—
G A Hick	4	4	1	183	86*	61.00	—	2	1
N Hussain	1	1	1	15	15*	—	—	—	1
M P Maynard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	2	2	2	6	6*	—	—	—	—
R A Smith	8	7	1	210	68	35.00	—	2	5
G P Thorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R C Fraser	5	1	1	3	3*	—	—	—	—
A P Igglesden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C C Lewis	6	1	0	0	0	0.00	—	—	3
D E Malcolm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
I D K Salisbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P C R Tufnell	1	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	—
S L Watkin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	Best	5i	10m
R C Russell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A J Stewart	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M A Atherton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G A Hick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N Hussain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M P Maynard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
R A Smith	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G P Thorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R C Fraser	52.1	4	205	5	41.00	2-37	—	—
A P Igglesden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C C Lewis	42.2	5	198	8	24.75	3-30	—	—
D E Malcolm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
I D K Salisbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P C R Tufnell	5	0	20	0	—	—	—	—
S L Watkin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

One-day career records

Batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
R C Russell	26	19	6	261	60	20.07	—		126/5
A J Stewart	51	46	4	1278	103	30.42	1		83/3
M A Atherton	10	10	1	335	74	37.22	—	3	3
G A Hick	32	31	5	1038	105*	39.92	1	9	18
N Hussain	2	2	1	17	15*	17.00	—	—	1
M P Maynard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	2	2	0	6	6*	—	—	—	—
R A Smith	58	57	6	2068	167*	42.20	4	12	18
G P Thorpe	3	3	0	89	36	29.66	—	—	1
A R Caddick	3	2	2	3	2*	—	—	—	—
A R C Fraser	24	10	4	69	36*	11.50	—	—	—
A P Igglesden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C C Lewis	40	29	8	251	33	11.95	—	—	14
D E Malcolm	9	5	2	9	4	3.00	—	—	—
I D K Salisbury	2	1	1	2	2*	—	—	—	1
P C R Tufnell	15	7	6	13	5*	13.00	—	—	3
S L Watkin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	Best	5i	10m
R C Russell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A J Stewart	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M A Atherton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G A Hick	37	1	191	4	47.75	2-7	—	—
N Hussain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M P Maynard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
R A Smith	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G P Thorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A R Caddick	33	5	132	4	33.00	3-39	—	—
A R C Fraser	222.4	34	797	23	34.65	3-22	—	—
A P Igglesden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C C Lewis	319.1	20	1412	46	31.37	4-30	—	—
D E Malcolm	79	7	363	13	27.92	3-40	—	—
I D K Salisbury	12	1	78	2	39.00	2-35	—	—
P C R Tufnell	129	11	528	12	44.00	3-40	—	—
S L Watkin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Only applications made through The Times 1st XI telephone lines will be accepted from readers in the United Kingdom and Channel Islands. Postal applications will only be accepted from readers in the Republic of Ireland and outside the UK and must be received by the closing date. Only one postal entry per household is permitted.

2. They must be received by noon on Wednesday, February 16, 1994. There is no limit to the number of telephone applications any person or household may make. The lines are open now.

3. Only players published in The Times 1st XI list will be accepted as entries into the 1st XI competition. Incorrect entries null and void with no refund. No correspondence related to players selected will be entered into.

4. The 11 players selected must be drawn from the 17 in the published list. Six must be drawn from those designated as batsmen, four from the bowlers. One must be drawn from the wicketkeeper category although either Stewart or Russell may also be selected as a batsman if not picked as wicketkeeper. No player may be picked twice.

5. The Times Independent panel of experts will provide updated records of each player's performance on a regular basis.

6. Inaudible or incomplete applications will not be accepted. The computer's record of the entry will be considered to be the entry.

7. Offer is open to readers over the age of 18.

8. The first prize will go to the team with the lowest total score. If there is more than one entrant with the same total of points, the winner will be decided by tie-break. In the first instance of a tie, the entrant whose selected eleven made the most appearances in the ten matches would be adjudged the winner. We will investigate complaints but our decision is final and we will not enter into correspondence regarding the competition.

9. Promotional and explanatory copy relating to The Times 1st XI form part of the terms and conditions for participation.

10. Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at other times.

11. Calls should take around six minutes.

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Unbeaten tour record maintained

Caddick's injury casts cloud over England success

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN ANTIGUA

ENGLAND have not made a habit of winning matches in the West Indies in the past two decades, as a record of six first-class victories in four tours can confirm. Any celebrating of the success in St John's yesterday, however, was subdued after a final day on which the bad news heavily outweighed the good.

Much the most worrying development concerned Andy Caddick, who did more than anyone else to bring about the defeat of the Leeward Islands. Caddick had an x-ray in hospital on a sore right shin after bowling five overs yesterday.

The result was inconclusive but a stress fracture, which would inevitably end his first, richly promising, tour, cannot be ruled out. Mike Smith, the England tour manager, is trying to arrange for a scan on the shin, if the relevant equipment is available in Barbados when the party arrives there today.

Dave Roberts, the team physiotherapist, explained: "The good news is that the x-ray was normal but I am not in a position to be certain there is no fracture. At best, he will need a few days' rest and would still be fit for the first Test. I would not wish to speculate on the worst case."

So impressively had Caddick and England performed on Saturday, extending their first-innings lead to 131 and taking eight Leeward Islands wickets for 129, that the final day was almost unnecessary. The formalities, however, were neither as brief nor as conclusive as the touring side had planned.

It was not until after lunch that the result was confirmed, and then by seven wickets rather than the promised ten as a result of three wickets tumbling within ten balls.

England, pursuing a mere 43, were slightly embarrassed at 20 for three and although Hussain and Hick made light of the situation, management brows were by this time furrowed as the potential of Caddick's condition emerged.

Caddick: sore shin

He had bowled, in this match, with rhythm and confidence enough to impress Andy Roberts, who knows as much as anyone alive about bowling fast on this ground. His pace was distinctly sharp, he obtained steep bounce denied to the other seam bowlers and his figures, six for 94, did him no justice.

For good measure, he also batted more than two hours for 36 in the style of one who could justify going in as high as No 8. If the first Test team were chosen today, England would want him in it, something that cannot automatically be said of the errant Lewis.

As one whose only memorable contribution to the tour so far has been to suffer sunstroke through shaving his head, Lewis had a point to prove in this game. Sadly, he proved only that his apparent ability is too often buried beneath eccentricity.

He was given only two overs on Saturday but managed to concede 18 runs, which included five no-balls. Something can be done to help cure his overstepping but it is up to him to eliminate such nonsense as he purveyed yesterday, attracting an official warning from Pat White, one of the umpires, after a second successive bouncer at a No 11 batsman.

Lewis finally got his man, John Maynard, courtesy of pitching the ball up at a sensible length and winning a leg-before decision, but it had been an idiotic piece of cricket, which Lewis perhaps acknowledged by offering to shake the umpire's hand at the end of the innings. White politely declined.

The option to play a spin bowler in their Test side is surely growing in the minds of the England selectors, and Ian Salisbury's four wickets, from 28 unchanged overs, were hugely encouraging.

Like Caddick, his confidence has returned after a chastening summer and the long hops with which he obtained two of his wickets were isolated rather than regular.

Keith Fletcher, the England team manager, believes Salisbury is not yet at his best but, interestingly, expects to encounter more pitches like this one, dry and dusting surfaces on which the ball turned from the first day as well as bouncing very unevenly.

The bowlers enjoy them rather more than the batsmen, as Michael Atherton would confirm after the unplayable shooter from Vaughn Walsh that flattened his leg stump. Failures for Ramprakash and Thorpe did a little more to undermine England's day but they move on today unbeaten and, so far, untested at the highest level.

SCOREBOARD

LEEWARDS ISLANDS: First innings 181 (C W Walwyn 65)

Second Innings

*S C Williams c Caddick b Salisbury	24
L A Hamgan c Maynard b Salisbury	12
C W Walwyn c Ramprakash b Watkin	30
H W Williams lbw Caddick	25
D Joseph c Lewis b Salisbury	2
†R D Jacobs c Hussain b Hick	5
H A G Anthony b Caddick	8
L Weekes c Hussain b Salisbury	1
W D Philip not out	31
V A Walsh lbw b Caddick	1
J C Maynard lbw b Lewis	14
Extras (lb 3, nb 13)	16
Total	173

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-61, 3-83, 4-86, 5-94, 6-113, 7-118, 8-120, 9-139

BOWLING: Caddick 19-6-32-3; Watkin 12-2-30-1, Lewis 4.4-0-29-1, Salisbury 28-7-59-4, Hick 5-0-20-1

ENGLAND XI: First Innings

*M A Atherton c Philip b Weekes	77
M R Ramprakash lbw Anthony	41
G P Thorpe c Jacobs b Maynard	11
G A Hick c Jacobs b Maynard	0
N Hussain c Jacobs b Weekes	14
M P Maynard lbw b Walsh	25
†R C Russell c S C Williams b Philip	56
C C Lewis b Philip	5
I D K Salisbury lbw Anthony	3
A R Caddick c Philip b Anthony	36
S L Watkin not out	5
Extras (b 5, lb 8, w 8, nb 17)	38
Total	312

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-105, 2-127, 3-128, 4-158, 5-169, 6-201, 7-216, 8-228, 9-298.

BOWLING: Walsh 25-3-90-1; Weekes 20-5-44-2, Philip 30.4-10-49-2; Maynard 18-2-65-2; Anthony 24-8-51-3.

Second Innings

*M A Atherton b Walsh	9
M R Ramprakash c Philip b Maynard	4
G P Thorpe c and b Walsh	4
G A Hick not out	11
N Hussain not out	15
Extras (lb 1)	1
Total (3 wkts)	45

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-16, 3-20.

BOWLING. Walsh 5-0-23-2; Maynard 4-0-16-1, Philip 0.4-0-4-0.

Umpires: P Whyte and J Stevens

RAINER KLOSTERMEIER

Eubank lands to Rocchigiani's body on his way to retaining his WBO super-middleweight title on points in Berlin

Eubank defies latest bout of controversy

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN BERLIN

WHEN Chris Eubank's manager, Barry Hearn, was asked after his boxer's win over Graciano Rocchigiani whether the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight champion would go to Belfast to defend against Ray Close, the promoter said: "We would go to the moon to fight anybody."

Boxing on the moon would be quite a good idea because the WBO would clearly feel at home there. Certainly, the judge who scored this bout 118 points to Eubank and 109 to Rocchigiani, of Germany, must have been watching from up there.

Even after a point was deducted against Eubank, his scoring meant: Eubank 11 rounds, Rocchigiani one. Moonshine! Most British ringsiders gave it to Eubank by one to two rounds. On my card Rocchigiani won it by a round but I would not argue with those who gave it to the 27-year-old Englishman.

Until "Fight On Moon Shock" takes place, Eubank will travel the earth "for good fights, good pay-days, good entertainment for boxing fans". Hearn said Eubank would remain the busiest world champion, fighting in Hong Kong, Sun City, Paris, Los Angeles. Significantly, none of the toughest American champions figures in their plans.

"The world is his oyster," Hearn said, forgetting to add that famous advice: "But you don't crack it open on a mattress" of Willy Loman to his son in *Death of a Salesman*. However, first stop could be Belfast to meet Close. The bout has to go to purse offers, and Close's manager, B. J. Eastwood, said he would do his best to stage the bout at Windsor Park in the summer.

The contest in Berlin was not the most elegant of boxing matches. For the most part, Rocchigiani, 30, advanced with his head buried in his gloves, which was exactly what Eubank wanted him to do, and he proceeded to whack the German about the elbows and the gloves for the first three rounds.

But when Rocchigiani emerged from behind his gloves, he was much more effective than Eubank, landing on target with solid punches causing Eubank to run and duck low (for which he was penalised a point in the eleventh round). The computer corroborated this view. Eubank threw 457 punches of which 91 landed (20 per cent) while Rocchigiani threw 289 and 127 found the target (49 per cent).

However, it has to be said that this time Eubank worked for rather more than half a minute every round and at the end was up on his toes while the German was the one who was puffing. Neither Close nor Eastwood was impressed with Eubank. Close, who drew with Eubank last year, said: "He did not show me anything new. I beat him last time. I'll beat him again."

O'Sullivan searches for stubborn streak

BY PHIL YATES

PLAYING badly is a rare experience for Ronnie O'Sullivan. He always wants to win, but, unlike some of his better-established rivals, he does not possess the stubbornness to achieve victory by pedestrian methods.

Just over 12 hours after Steve Davis had dredged his competitive reserves to beat Alan McManus 9-6 in the final of the Regal Welsh Open at Newport on Saturday, O'Sullivan was surprisingly beaten 5-1 by Dennis Taylor in the first round of the Benson and Hedges Masters.

The vast expanses of Wembley Conference Centre, the largest auditorium in Britain used for snooker, has traditionally been a poor place for the hopes of Masters debutants, but O'Sullivan dismissed it as a reason for his defeat, preferring a much simpler explanation: "I haven't been happy with my game for a month. At the moment, I don't feel like getting the cue out of its case.

"I am playing for eight hours some days and, in that time, I'm only playing well for 30 minutes. When I go to the club to practice, I just can't seem to concentrate and enjoy it."

The worst of O'Sullivan's many errors in the early stages was a missed pink to a middle pocket in the third frame. Taylor, the 1985 world champion, potted it and the black for 3-0, went 4-0 ahead and led 58-8 in the fifth frame when O'Sullivan put together a match-saving run of 65.

O'Sullivan, a wild-card entry thanks to his triumph in the Benson and Hedges championship in Edinburgh three months ago, was seemingly well-placed for 2-4 before Taylor laid the three snookers he required. A last red-to-black clearance from Taylor completed his first win in the tournament since he captured the title seven years ago. Stephen Hendry, attempting to win the Masters for the sixth year in succession, extended his unbeaten record at Wembley to 21 matches with a 5-2 victory over Darren Morgan.

Davis, 4-0 down to McManus in the Welsh Open final, won nine of the following 11 frames to collect a first prize of £27,000. McManus, defeated 9-7 by Ken Doherty in the climax to last year's event, has yet to prevail in a leading tournament despite appearing in six finals and a further 11 semi-finals.

RESULTS: Regal Welsh Open, Final: S Davis (Eng) bt A McManus (Scot), 9-6. Frame scores (Davis first): 39-96, 33-95; 0-88, 49-63, 69-55, 94-0, 71-46, 87-0, 75-30, 126-0, 12-85, 8-69, 59-58; 68-0, 82-15, 0-115 (0-0). Benson and Hedges Masters: First round: D Taylor (Eng) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng), 5-1. Second round: S Hendry (Scot) bt D Morgan (Wales), 5-2.

Two of a kind keep Tigers in the hunt

TWO home wins in two days enabled Thames Valley Tigers to keep the pressure on the two clubs above them in the Budweiser basketball league (Nicholas Harling writes). Tigers followed up their 88-79 victory over Leicester City Riders on Friday by beating London Towers 93-76 on Saturday.

After Leicester had wasted the best chance of an upset by squandering a 12-point interval lead, there was no chance of complacency setting in a second time. From the moment Tony Holley shot Tigers into a 19-18 lead against Towers, 48 seconds from the end of the first quarter, they stayed ahead.

London trailed by 22 points at one stage but, with the help of four three-pointers from Joel Moore, the advantage was reduced to six before Tigers ran away with it, led by Nigel Lloyd's 23 points.

Manchester Giants and Worthing Bears prepared for their top-of-the-table meeting with wins against Hemel Hempstead Royals and Chester Jets respectively. Giants' 90-66 success at Hemel Hempstead was achieved under the coaching of Rick Taylor, their managing director, following the sudden departure of Jeff Jones.

The Jets made Worthing battle for their 104-96 win on the south coast. They were level at the end of the first two quarters and were finished off only by the champions' accuracy from the free-throw line. Seventeen of 19 shots were successful, including the 11 taken by Cleave Lewis.

Guildford Kings, glad to be facing domestic opposition after the traumas of their European misadventure, won 85-72 away to Sunderland Scorpions, for whom Russ Saunders, the league's player of the month for January, collected 38 points.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

ANTIGROPELOS

(b) Coverings to protect the legs against wet mud, waterproof leggings, originally a proprietary name, said to be made up from the Greek *anti* against + *hugros* wet + *pēlos* mud, which should give *anthygropelos*: "The surgeon of the Union in mackintosh and antigropelos."

BOURDON

(b) The low undersong or accompaniment, which was sung while the leading voice sang a melody, from the French *bourdon*, the continuous bass or drone of the bagpipe, the bass string of a violin, also a drone bee. A conjecture that the bass-pipe of an organ, or drone of a bagpipe may have been so called from its resemblance to a staff, *bourdon*, is not supported by history. Spenser, 1596: "And seem to beare a bourdon to their plaint."

TESTOR

(a) One who testifies, a witness, from the OF *tester* to bear witness, give evidence, attest, make one's will, Latin *testāri*, *testis* a witness; Robert Burton, *Anatomy of Melancholy*, 1621: "Conscience, a continual testor to give in evidence, to empanel a jury to examine us, to cry guilty."

URTICATION

(c) The action or function of urticating or stinging like or as a nettle, a stinging operation, from the Latin *urtica* a stinging-nettle, *uricāre* to sting; Jeremy Taylor, 1655: "A body may be said to be lustful though it be asleep, or eating, without the sense of actual urtications and violence, by reason of its constitution."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Nf3+! 2 gxf3 Rg6+ and 3 ... Qxf1 mating quickly.

Bradford show necessary bite

Featherstone Rovers.... 11
Bradford Northern..... 13

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

IN DEFLECTING all that Featherstone Rovers threw at them after the interval, Bradford Northern demonstrated the defensive backbone that until yesterday their challenge for the Stones Bitter rugby league championship had lacked.

It was touch and go, however. As the rain lashed their faces, and the Featherstone Rovers forwards built up a head of steam down the slope at Post Office Road, Bradford's reputation seemed about to go the way of Wigan on the same ground last September.

Fox: strong nerve

The cool head of Watson at full back, and strong nerve of Fox, on the scrum half's return to his former club, helped to frustrate a gallant Featherstone effort and maintained Bradford's second place, level on points with the leaders, Warrington.

A battling victory was savoured all the more for having been achieved in adversity. Banned because of his refusal to attend the World Sevens in Sydney, a dispute that has brought about his self-imposed exile from the international arena, Paul Newlove took up the role of sand-carrier for Fox, whose two goals and dropped goal in the second half were critical.

In the centre, Daio Powell did a fair impression of Newlove. His impressive running from deep gave Bradford the initial impetus. When Fairbank sent Shelford clear on the end of a six-man move and Watson burst on to a short pass from Fox, the visitors looked to be in control.

Although they had plenty of sight of the visitors' line, Featherstone butter-fingered half-a-dozen reasonable chances before Calland lobbed a ball inside to Butt on the right and the odds dictated that at least one scoring pass should go to hand.

Errors by the home side and Watson's cover-tackling to deny Calland and Gibson were the difference. As conditions worsened, Featherstone's handling somehow improved. Other than a third goal and dropped goal by the excellent Maloney, though, Bradford took everything on the chin and, save the odd wobble, remained upright at the finish.

SCORERS: Featherstone: Try: Butt. Goals: Maloney (3). Dropped goal: Maloney. Bradford: Tries: Shelford, Watson. Goals: Fox (2). Dropped goal: Fox.

FEATHERSTONE ROVERS: C Gibson; I Butt, M Calland, I Ropati, O Simpson, F Maloney, B Daunt, S Molloy, R Gunn (sub, G Southernwood, 65min), L Casey, G S Price (sub N Roebuck, 52), G H Price, B Tuuta.

BRADFORD NORTHERN: D Watson, G Cordle, D Shelford, D Powell, B Kebbie, N Summers, D Fox, P Grayshon (sub: Dixon, 79), T Clark, J Hamer, R Powell, P Dixon (sub: D Heron, 22), K Fairbank.

Referee: R Connolly

☐ Warrington retained top spot with a 22-8 home victory over Hull. First-half tries from Lee Penny, Paul Darbyshire, Mark Forster and Greg Mackey gave Warrington a 20-2 interval lead that they never looked likely to surrender. Leeds had their prop forward, Harvey Howard, sent off after 16 minutes for a high tackle on the Salford winger, Paul O'Neill, but still fought back from 8-0 down to win 22-16.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

KINGSTON UPON THAMES COUNTY COURT

British Telecom apologise for any inconvenience caused to the Lord Chancellor's Department and Customers of the Kingston Court, for disruption to Telephone and Facsimile services during the period 10 January 1994 to 25 January 1994.

LEGAL NOTICES

CAL Limited
The Burrow Meat Production Limited
Amber Trading Limited
CAL Graphics and Design Limited
(In Administrative Receivership)
Registered Number: 1093056
Registered Number: 1442628
Registered Number: 2441016
Registered Number: 2785276
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that general meetings of the unsecured creditors of the above-named companies will be held at The Sherlock Holmes Hotel, Baker Street, London W1M 1LB on Thursday 17 February 1994 at 11.00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meetings and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on Wednesday 16 February 1994 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from one or more of the companies, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
P R Copp
Joint Administrative Receiver

John Hall & Son (Oldham) Limited - In Members Voluntary Liquidation
Notice is hereby given that it is my intention to declare a First and Final Dividend to creditors of the above named company. Creditors who have not yet done so are required, on or before 28 February 1994 to send details of their claim to the undersigned N J Dargan of Touche Ross & Co, the Liquidator of the company. Any creditor who has not lodged his claim by the specified date will not be entitled to participate in the dividend.
4 February 1994
N J DARGAN, LIQUIDATOR
Touche Ross & Co, Abbey House, P O Box 500, 74 Mosley Street, Manchester M60 2AT.

FRED WRIGHT AND SONS (SUPPLIES) LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of the above-named company will be held at the offices of Baker Tilly, Brazennose House, Lincoln Square, Manchester M2 5BL, on 21 February 1994 at 10 am, for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a creditors' committee to exercise the functions conferred on by or under the Act.
Creditors are only entitled to vote if: (a) they have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and (b) there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to use on his behalf.
Dated this 28th day of January 1994
Alan J Sutton,
Joint Administrative Receiver
NOTE: Creditors may obtain a copy of the report, free of charge, on application to the Administrative Receivers at the address shown above.

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
Wealth Of Nations Limited
NOTICE is hereby given that we, T Stansal and L Horman of Hacker Young and Partners, St Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DH were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of Wealth Of Nations Limited on 21st January 1994 by Southmark (Jersey) Limited under the powers contained in a debenture dated 29th July 1993 whereby fixed and floating charges were created over all the assets of the company.
Assets of the company of which the person appointed is not made receiver: None.
Dated 21st January 1994
T Stansal
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In the matter of
Michael Walter Savile
In Bankruptcy in the High Court No. 596 of 1993
Notice is hereby given that Geoffrey C A Morphuis of 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH was appointed Trustee of the above named on 27th April 1993.
G C A MORPHUIS, Trustee.

LEGAL NOTICES

HEATH ENGINEERING PRODUCTS (MANCHESTER) LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of the above-named company will be held at the offices of Baker Tilly, Brazennose House, Lincoln Square, Manchester M2 5BL, on 21 February 1994 at 11 am, for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a creditors' committee to exercise the functions conferred on by or under the Act.
Creditors are only entitled to vote if: (a) they have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and (b) there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to use on his behalf.
Dated this 28th day of January 1994
Alan J Sutton,
Joint Administrative Receiver
NOTE: Creditors may obtain a copy of the report, free of charge, on application to the Administrative Receivers at the address shown above.

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF
Neel Design (Formerly Swift 1298) Limited
Wescol Management (Formerly Grafton Management) Limited
J Hepworth & Son (Formerly Grafton House) Limited
Neel Fashions (Formerly Bailey Brothers (Birkenhead)) Limited
Neel Interior (Formerly Duramics) Limited
Neel Mail (Formerly Edna Lloyd Smith) Limited
Lady Al Lord John (Formerly Bath (Moreton)) Limited
Neel Direct (1987) (Formerly Peter D Yates)
Neel Computer Services (Neel Furnishings) Limited
Charlan Limited
Neel Mail (Formerly SB Glover & Co) Limited
On 21 January 1994 the companies were placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Richard James Rees of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at Victoria House 76 Mount Street, Nottingham NG1 3QY by 21 February 1994 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The companies are able to pay all known creditors in full.
Date 21 January 1994
R J Rees, Liquidator

Purmon Limited
Registered number: 2232851
Trading name: Group Environmental Services. Nature of business: Building Repairs. Trade classification: 26. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 27th January 1994. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Barclays Bank plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: N D Goodman FCA and P. Moniack, FCA (office holder nos: 2407 and 2346) of Leonard Curtis & Co, P O Box 943, 80 East Mount Terrace, 2nd Floor, London W2 6LF

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
SCS COMPUTER SALES PLC AND SCS DIRECT LIMITED
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that meetings of creditors of the above named companies will be held at 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF on 15 February 1994, at 10.15 am and 11.00 am respectively for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Companies creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm on Friday 11 February and Monday 14 February 1994.
Creditors wishing to vote must lodge a full statement of account and an informal proof of debt and, unless attending in person, a proxy form at Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF no later than 12.00 noon on 15 February 1994.
Secured Creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the meetings.
Dated 31 January 1994
By Order of the Board
R G Shaw, Director

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF
DELTA TECHNOLOGY COMPUTERS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD on the 10 day of February 1994, at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
Creditors are only entitled to vote at the Meeting if a proof of debt, together with a proxy if required, has been lodged at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD not later than noon on 9 February 1994.
A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge, for the two business days prior to the Meeting at Gibson Hewitt & Co, 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6SD.
Dated this day 3rd of February 1994
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
MRS M SEKHA, DIRECTOR

The Insolvency Act 1986
MND LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, KT14 6SD on 18th February 1994 at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 - 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting (unless attending in person) must lodge a proxy at 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6SD no later than noon on 17th February 1994.
A list of names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at Gibson Hewitt & Co, 5 Park Court, Pyrford Road, West Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 6SD between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm during the two days next before the meeting.
Dated this 2nd day of February 1994
By Order of the Board
NIGEL DAVIS, Director

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
THAMES VALLEY CREATIVE HOMES LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 14 February 1994 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA and Terence John Roper FIPA of 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 31 day of January, 1994
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
J Devaney, DIRECTOR

The Insolvency Act 1986
AMSCAR FINANCIAL SERVICES PLC
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of Popleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square London EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 28th February 1994. Dated this 28th day of January 1994
M R Dorrington, Liquidator.

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In the High Court
No 320 of 1993
In the matter of
MICHAEL WALTER SAVILLE & MARGARET ROSE SAVILLE (A PARTNERSHIP)
Notice is hereby given that Geoffrey C A Morphuis was appointed Liquidator of the above Company on the 27th April 1993.
G C A Morphuis, LIQUIDATOR

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In the matter of
MARGARET ROSE SAVILLE
IN BANKRUPTCY IN THE HIGH COURT No. 597 of 1993
Notice is hereby given that Geoffrey C A Morphuis of 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH was appointed Trustee of the above named on 27th April 1993.
G C A MORPHUIS, TRUSTEE

Waxman Limited
Registered Number: 00991449
Trading Name: Waxmans Limited Nature of Business: Church & Historic Build Restorers. Trade Classification: 53. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers 1 February 1994. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Barclays Bank Plc. Names of Persons appointed: Phillip Rodney Sykes and John Roger Hill both of Binder Hamlyn 20 Old Bailey London EC4M 7BH (office holder nos: 6119 and 5737). Joint Administrative Receivers.

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Salary will be within the professional range (current minimum £32,343 per annum).

Further particulars and application forms, returnable not later than 9 March 1994, from the Personnel Office, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: (0602) 515781.
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When enquiring for further particulars, or lodging an application, please quote one or more of the following reference numbers:

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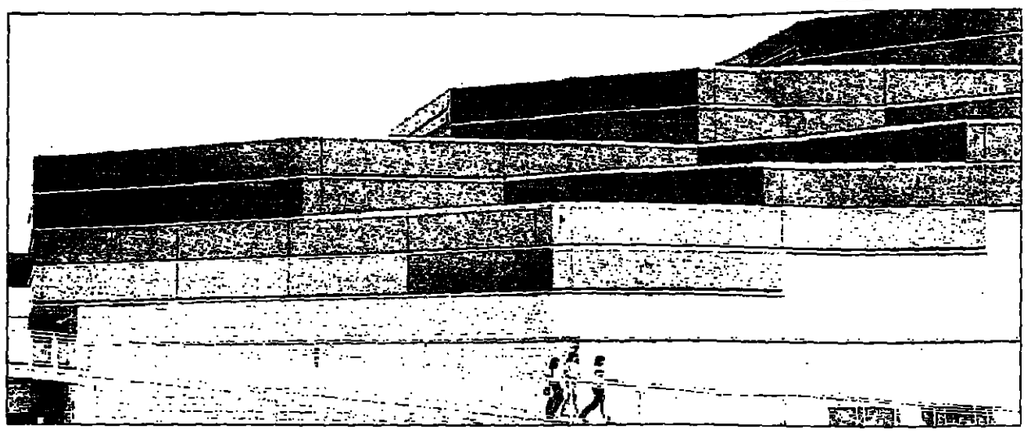


Which universities are at the head of the lists of the great and good who matter in higher education, and is the order changing? **Peter Scott** tells tales out of college

Which are Britain's top universities? Until last year it was impolite to ask, although privately everyone thought they knew the answer — Oxford, Cambridge and a few others including, of course, their own. In a society supposedly obsessed by class distinctions, all universities belonged to the same club, and every member was equal.

When there were only 45 universities, this strange mixture of elitism and egalitarianism just about made sense. Attempts in the mid-1980s by an over-enthusiastic research establishment to divide all higher education institutions into three divisions had been dismissed as, well, over-enthusiastic and un-English. But since the abolition of the distinction between universities and polytechnics, the number of universities has doubled. Dunnish etiquette has begun to crumble.

> The group is not a club; it is more of a huddle

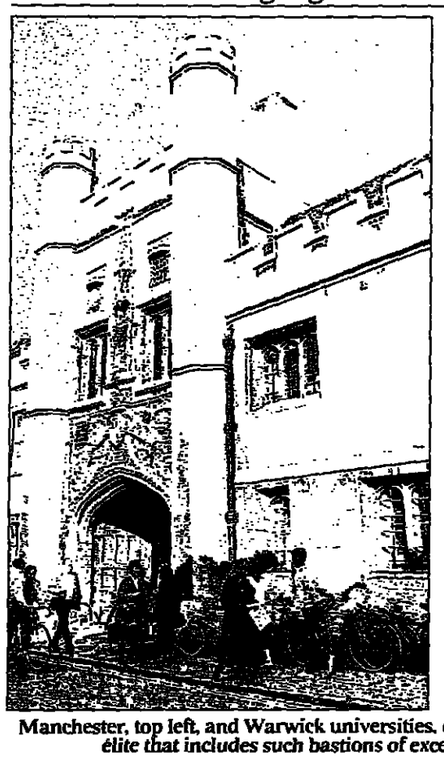
An élite group — or, to be state-of-the-art, a premiership — is emerging. It is not a club; more a huddle. But already ministers, civil servants and quangocrats are showing interest. They listen to top-table conversations and discreetly make lists of the favoured universities on napkins, name cards, the backs of menus . . . Then the lists are carefully slipped into their top pockets — to emerge, ten years on, in a White Paper?

The universities on these lists are, at first sight — if you are lucky enough to glimpse them before they are quietly filed away — utterly predictable, but, on second thoughts, surprising. Oxford and Cambridge, naturally. University College London and Imperial College select themselves. The London School of Economics is half-in, half-out. Edinburgh is there, much to the dismay of Glasgow. So is Warwick, envied by its fellow new universities of the 1960s. Birmingham is the only big civic to be a regular member of the new élite. Manchester has visiting rights.

No real surprises. Manchester would certainly have been a full, not a fringe, member had such a list been compiled a generation ago. The list ignores the recovery of the other big civics in the most recent round of research assessment and misses rising stars such as Bath. But, with a little adjustment here and there, it is a defensible list of the top research universities in Britain today.

It is an odd list, nevertheless, because most of the universities on it are odd institutions. Oxford and Cambridge are unique. They do not offer a model that other universities, even if they wanted to, could emulate. Three are schools of London University; two of these, Imperial and the LSE, have a restricted subject range. One, Edinburgh, is an odd university by Scottish standards — too English! Only three, therefore — Warwick, Birmingham and Manchester — are "normal" universities; possibly only two, because Warwick has nothing messy like a medical school.

Another oddity of the emerging élite is that it has coalesced around a grievance. Its members believe they are being held back, or otherwise discriminated against, by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). Most of their departments were rated either 4 or 5, the two top grades, in last year's research assessment exercise. But the HEFCE, when it came to deciding allocations for research, capped those to the strong research universities in order to protect the weak.



Manchester, top left, and Warwick universities, quietly moving up towards the long-established élite that includes such bastions of excellence as Cambridge, left, and Oxford

Most of the élite group were capped, although so too were Bath, Sussex and King's College, London. The funding council's intention, of course, was not to punish excellence but to manage rates of change. No university was allowed more than a 15 per cent increase. Their deprivation is only relative. Oxford and Cambridge still receive more than £40 million apiece for research. Altogether, the élite group takes almost 30 per cent of the total, excluding Edinburgh, which is funded by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council not the HEFCE.

However, if the élite is defined as those which receive grants of more than £20 million for research, a subtly different group emerges. There are nine universities in this heavyweight division. Oxford, Cambridge, University and Imperial Colleges, Edinburgh and Birmingham are still there. Manchester's membership is confirmed. But the LSE and Warwick drop out (because they are both comparatively small institutions), and Glasgow and Leeds join.

Most members of the self-selected élite are within 50 miles of London. That is where its centre of gravity is to be found. This bias towards the comfortable South is not an accident, a pretext for the regrinding of northern axes. Except at the climax of the industrial revolution a century and a half ago, the South has always been the natural home of élites.

But the distribution of Britain's older universities still reflects that time when the industrial North and Midlands achieved a brief predominance. As a result there are "too many" universities in the North forcing the southern middle-class to migrate northwards as students — which may help to explain the back-to-back Lowry-esque nostalgia of the metropolitan chattering classes.

> The élite could start a dialogue with former polys

The immediate issue in higher education, however, is not the North-South divide. It is, if a university élite is now unavoidable, how it should be defined. The élite starting to emerge is made up of exceptional universities, not just because of the excellence of their research and scholarship but because they have limited rather than comprehensive missions. So it will be an impermeable élite.

An alternative, extended élite could be defined with a different centre of gravity in the big civic universities: Birmingham and Manchester but also Southampton, Sheffield, Leeds. A few tentative meetings of these universities have already been held, mainly it seems to discuss the trials and tribulations of managing medical schools. They are almost as eminent in research. But, except in size, they are not exceptional. Mass undergraduate teaching, proliferating postgraduate (and post-experience) courses, continuing education — they do a bit of everything. An élite based on them would be permeable. Other, non-élite, universities could emulate and influence them.

Some, in Oxford, Cambridge and the London fragments, argue that élites are by definition exceptional. In the United States the top research universities include a disproportionate number of private institutions such as Harvard, Chicago and Stanford. But at the heart of the American academic élite are the great state universities — California, Michigan, Wisconsin. The heartland of the British system is the civic universities. Perhaps that is where the centre of gravity of its élite should be located, too.

An important advantage of this alternative élite would be that these universities would be far better able to engage in a dialogue with the other powerful force in British higher education, the former polytechnics. In most cases, they have no choice. They are next-door neighbours. Oxford or Imperial, in contrast, have so little in common with the "new" universities there is nothing much to talk about. In a mass system, the synergy between a civic-university élite and the openness of the "new" universities could be immensely creative.

● *The author is Professor of Education, University of Leeds.*

Tobacco ad ban is a smokescreen for truth

Kevin Barron's Bill to ban tobacco advertising is due to receive its second reading in the House of Commons on Friday. But the debate is a red herring and will do little to cut the number of young smokers. More important is to discuss why health education in the UK has failed to convince so many young people that smoking is harmful.

It is estimated that 38 per cent of men and 39 per cent of women in the UK aged between 20 and 24 are regular smokers. Baffled and frustrated by what looks like mass suicide by a significant proportion of the younger generation, there has been a search for the evil genius that has led our children astray. And in the dock is tobacco advertising.

The Government has already signalled its intention of undercutting support for Barron's Bill by introducing new restrictions on tobacco advertising. But neither the demands for a ban nor the Government's fancy footwork should divert our attention from the real issue. Twenty-five years of expensive anti-smoking campaigns by the Department of Health (DoH) and the Health Education Authority (HEA) have produced only modest results. No wonder a scapegoat is needed. But the 40 per cent of young adults smoking cannot be blamed on advertising alone.

There is a good case against tobacco advertising but it is not the one the health activists use. They argue that advertising increases consumption and recruits young smokers. The industry counters that it merely encourages smokers to switch brands.

It is a sterile argument. The case against advertising is not that it encourages young people to smoke but that it makes it more difficult for them not to do so.

Teachers, whose views on health education are seldom sought, will appreciate the distinction: health activists, who tend to know more about epidemiology than adolescents, will not. Of all the factors that recruit teenagers into smoking, advertising is probably the least persuasive. Peer group attitudes and the example of parents and older siblings exert much greater pressure.

> A muddled strategy is failing the young

The role of tobacco advertising is not to recruit but to subvert; it undermines the health warning by its very existence. Health warnings mean little to adolescents anyway: death is far away and cancer only a name. By permitting advertising, the adult world provides an alibi for those who wish to give in to temptation. This argument should be weighed against the advertisers' insistence on freedom of speech. Tobacco is the only product that is harmful if used in the way the manufacturer intended. So is freedom to advertise worth the cost of giving young people what amounts to official permission to smoke?

Children continue to smoke

The case against tobacco advertising is convincing, but a ban will do little more than give health education a second chance. And it is doubtful whether that chance will be taken unless the structure of health education is altered.

Its fundamental weakness is that it is leaderless. "The director", wrote François Truffaut of film making, "is the only person with the whole thing in his mind." And it is such a person, a guiding intelligence, that health education is lacking. In practice, no one department or individual is responsible, and any strategy is limp and incoherent.

The Government tells a different story. Everything is under control. The DoH's White Paper, *The Health of the Nation*, provides the strategic framework and encourages local "health alliances", which will include schools. But what happens in schools is the responsibility of the Department for Education (DFE), and the two departments do not have a close relationship. Each jealously guards its territory. Those who know about health seldom have anything to do with those who know about education.

The HEA, the principal vehicle for delivering health education, has no direct access to schools. If it wants to know what schools are doing, it has to ask the DFE. If it wants to influence schools, it has to work through those local health alliances, assuming that the schools have the time and inclination to join. Some headteachers might be reluctant to take part, particularly when they hear the health alliances described as a plethora of agencies with a contribution to make.

What the Government calls a strategy is in reality a well-intentioned muddle. All health education, both in and out of school, should be put under the direction of one minister and one organisation. The latter should reflect the interests of education more than health. Doctors are useful for explaining scientific facts, but are not much use at putting those facts across to young people. We must press for a shake-up in the way health education is organised.

JOHN RAE

● *The author is director of the Portman Group, a trust concerned with alcohol misuse.*

Swanlea School features state-of-the-art technology

A school for the 21st century

WHEN the architects submitted their designs for the first local authority secondary school to be built in London for more than a decade, the new pressures on headteachers and education authorities were uppermost in their minds.

Swanlea School, in Bethnal Green, east London, which opened officially on Friday, was given a high degree of flexibility to cope with curriculum changes, and features to cut down running costs and maximise the potential for generating income and catering for the local community.

The school cost £9.55 million, and will accommodate more than 1,000 pupils in an area of growing population. Stewart Rayment, who chairs the education committee in the borough of Tower Hamlets, says: "We see the school as a flagship for the local education authority to set standards for the 21st century."

Every classroom at Swanlea has access to an information technology network with 650 outlets, the product of a £500,000 City Challenge grant.

However, it was the school's innovative central mall which landed the commission for the Bristol-based Percy Thomas Partnership. Professor Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, the firm's consultant, set out to create a series of "shop windows" for pupils and visitors, but also to minimise heating costs.

The design process coincided with the introduction in Tower Hamlets of local management of schools, making governors responsible for income and running costs. As a result, the library, language laboratories, sports hall, restaurant and assembly hall are all intended for use by outside organisations. The architects say: "The aim is to make the school a genuine community amenity and to help it earn revenue to boost its budget."

By providing a landmark for the community, Ron Morgan, the project architect, hopes to create a feeling of local pride that will reduce the risk of vandalism. Mr Rayment says: "The need to build more schools is still with us. The Government must look sympathetically upon us if they are sincerely concerned about education in inner-city areas."

JOHN O'LEARY

Poor play areas let care slide

THE DRAB, tarmac playgrounds that ring many British schools could be helping to create a generation of bullies and vandals who care little about the world in which they live.

A new study indicates that the unwelcoming, ugly and litter-strewn playground should be put alongside the computer game and video nasty as causing potential harm to young minds.

Well-managed play areas with nature trails, dens and ponds not only stimulate children but send signals that adults care for them and the world at large, the research shows. A play area bereft of nature and devoid of places to explore adds to low esteem by making children believe they are not valued by the world or the adults around them.

Wendy Titman, research co-ordinator with Learning Through Landscapes, the trust that carried out the study, says: "Children believe that nobody cares for their school and so they are also not worth caring about. Many children seemed genuinely distressed by mess and expressed the view that acts of vandalism to the school grounds were a direct attack on them."

She says the state of playgrounds could be turning many children into cynics who flout discipline: "Children look at the degradation around them from the school classroom", she says, "and draw comparisons between practising and preaching."

The study found that where schools had developed the grounds sensitively for play and teaching, positive changes in child behaviour had occurred.

NICK NUTTALL

● *Wendy Titman's report, "Special Places: Special People", is available from Learning Through Landscapes, Southside Offices, Law Courts, Winchester.*

Rights of the expelled

The expulsion of a pupil from school is often traumatic. For a child in an examination year, such as Juliet Pennington's son whose case was described on these pages last week, it can be a catastrophe.

Yet, sadly, expulsion is too commonly the price paid for a breakdown in communication and procedures. Permanent exclusion — to use the education jargon — is frequently the result of the failure of parents, teachers, governors and local education authorities (LEAs) to understand the law relating to school discipline.

As a solicitor and school governor, I want to give some basic advice that might help parents and pupils should they suddenly find themselves lost in the maze of regulations and statutes that govern disciplinary procedures in state schools. Unfortunately, it does not apply in the independent schools, which remain a law unto themselves.

> If you want a serious fight, hire a solicitor

A headteacher who imposes a permanent exclusion is required by law to notify the pupil and parents, explaining the reasons for it and informing them of their right of appeal to the governing body and the LEA. Any exclusion procedure must include the possibility of reinstatement.

If the parents appeal to the LEA and/or the governors, they must be allowed to make their representations to a governors' exclusion panel consisting of at least three members. In advance of the meeting, they must be supplied with the headteacher's report. If the pupil denies the offence, he or she has the right to challenge the evidence on which the headteacher's decision was based and to call and give evidence in support of their case. Most procedures allow the parents and pupil to be supported by a "friend", who could be a solicitor.

To save duplication, appeals to the governors and the LEA are usually combined in the same hearing. The governors and the LEA have to decide whether they think the pupil probably committed the offence which led to the exclusion. If so, or if the pupil has admitted the offence, they will then hear representations as to why the exclusion should be revoked. In a voluntary aided school, that matter will be considered by the governors alone and the LEA will have no say. In a county or maintained school, the view of the LEA will prevail.

LEAs are in a difficult position. If the LEA supports the head's original decision, it will be obliged by law to find the pupil an alternative place or home tuition. Thus, its inclination may be to order reinstatement in the hope that a lesson has been learnt.

If the pupil is not reinstated, he or she has the right of appeal to a panel entirely independent of the school. Again, it would be advisable to engage the services of an experienced solicitor or competent "friend".

The permanent exclusion procedure, although necessarily legalistic, is still a pastoral function and should be conducted with as much care for the pupil as is possible.

The parents and their "friend" should try to bring forward arguments which might affect them if they were governors. If the parents want to make a fight they should engage a solicitor with advocacy experience, who can ensure that the governors and the LEA follow a proper procedure and have before them all the relevant facts.

JOHN GARDINER

● *The author is a solicitor with German and Soar, Nottingham, and chairman of governors at a comprehensive school*

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MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE ANNIVERSARY BURSARIES

In 1993 Marlborough College marked the 150th anniversary of its foundation as a charitable school by the award of commemorative bursaries.

Mindful of its foundation, the College plans to make similar awards in 1994. The bursaries will be worth up to 50% of the fees (index-linked) for up to five years.

The awards are offered to boys and girls who wish to come to Marlborough in September 1994, either at 13 for five years or at 16 for two years in the Sixth Form, as either boarders or day pupils.

Succesful candidates will show outstanding promise in one or more of academic work, art, drama, music and sport. These bursaries are intended for those for whom an independent school education would not be possible without financial help.

To find out more about the Bursaries in particular, and about Marlborough generally, please telephone (0672 515511), fax (0672 516234) or write to the Registrar, Jeremy Woodhouse, at Marlborough College, Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1PA. He will be delighted to send further information and to arrange a visit.

Marlborough College is a charity (No 45911) founded in 1843 to provide education.

GIRTON COLLEGE
Cambridge

Bursar

Girton College intends to appoint a Bursar on either a full-time basis or a part-time basis to be responsible for the financial management of the College with effect from 1 September 1994. The person appointed will be elected to a Fellowship and will be an ex officio member of the College Council. The successful applicant should be a graduate and should have substantial administrative experience and good management and communication skills.

The appointment, which is open to men and women, will be for an initial period of three years, renewable thereafter for periods of five years, and for a full-time Bursar will carry a stipend within the range £30,000 to £37,000. The conditions of service are negotiable.

Before applying, applicants should obtain an application form and further particulars by sending a stamped addressed envelope (9in. x 6in.) to the Mistress, Girton College, Cambridge, CB3 0JG. The closing date for applications is 1 March 1994.

Girton College, which was founded in 1869 as the first women's college in the United Kingdom, has been mixed since 1977. It has some 80 Fellows, 500 undergraduates and 150 graduate students.

UNIVERSITY of OXFORD

(1) University of Oxford in association with Balliol and St Anne's Colleges
(2) University of Oxford in association with St Hugh's, New and Oriel Colleges

Two Faculty Lecturerships in Italian

Applications are invited for the above posts. These are joint appointments, the one with Balliol and St Anne's College and the other with St Hugh's, New and Oriel Colleges. Joint university and college stipend according to age on the scale currently £16,679 to £32,077 per annum. Other things being equal, preference will be given to candidates able to take responsibility for a wide range of teaching in the field of Italian literature, language and linguistics. Applications would be welcome from candidates with research interests in one or more of the following areas: Dante, Italian linguistic studies, Nineteenth-century Italian studies; candidates with other research interests should not be deterred from applying. The successful candidates will take up office on 1 October 1994 or, by arrangement, at some other date.

No separate application to the colleges is required.

Further particulars concerning the appointments and their scope, together with application forms, may be obtained (on request in writing) from the Secretary of the Board of the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, 37 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JF, to whom completed applications should be sent by 17 March 1994.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

UWE BRISTOL — University of the West of England

Housing Renewal Research

You will join a small team researching into housing renewal strategies within the Faculty of the Built Environment. This post is available for two years and will involve you in travelling to various areas to gather information and data on renewal policies. This project will concentrate on factors relating to the evaluation of housing renewal strategies and policies. You will possess a qualification in Building Surveying, Housing, Town Planning or some other related area within the built environment.

We would particularly welcome applications from women, black people and members of other minority ethnic groups and disabled people all of whom are under-represented within the Faculty. All applications will be considered on merit. Salary will be in the range £13,100 - £17,200.

For further information and an application form to be returned by 18 February 1994 please ring our 24 hour answerphone service on 0272 763813, or write to Personnel Services, UWE Bristol, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QY.

Please quote reference number R/405/T

UPPINGHAM

Uppingham School requires a Mathematician to teach Mathematics throughout the School.

Full details of the appointment may be obtained from The Headmaster's Secretary, Uppingham School, Uppingham, Leicestershire. LE15 9QE.

Telephone: 0572 822216. Fax: 0572 822332. Applicants are asked to provide a full C.V., and to give the names of two referees.

Uppingham is a school with 600 pupils, and a sixth-form of 320, including 120 girls. 85 pupils are currently studying Maths at A level.

Applicants should be willing to take a full part in the life of this predominantly boarding school.

It is hoped that interviews will take place in the week beginning 20th February.

POSTGRADUATE COURSES

King's College London

MSc in Gerontology and Postgraduate Research in Gerontology

Applications are invited for this course which offers advanced multidisciplinary education in gerontology to students with a background in the social sciences, life sciences, medicine, nursing, social welfare or housing. Students take a multidisciplinary core course, a course in research methods, two other courses chosen from a range of options and undertake a research based dissertation. Students may take the course either part-time over 2 years or full-time over 1 year.

Well qualified applicants for full-time places are eligible to apply for ESRC studentships. (The course is AP rated).

The Institute also invites applications from those wishing to study for MPhil and PhD degrees in Gerontology. Well qualified applicants are eligible to apply for ESRC studentships in either Mode A (full training given) or Mode B (for those with some prior research training).

For further details and an application form (stating clearly which degree you are interested in), please contact the Postgraduate Admission Tutor, Age Concern Institute of Gerontology (Ref T), King's College London, Cornwall House Annexe, Waterloo Road, London SE1 8TX. Telephone 071-872 3036/3035. Applications for the MSc should be received by 30th April 1994. Earlier application advised.

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POSTS

GRESHAM COLLEGE

APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSORS OF GEOMETRY (and the other mathematical Sciences) and RHETORIC (on this occasion, Contemporary History)

The Council of Gresham College invites applications from men and women who wish to be considered for appointment as Gresham Professors of **GEOMETRY** and **RHETORIC**, and nominations concerning candidates of appropriate standing who might be approached. The Chair of Geometry now includes the other mathematical sciences. On this occasion, the College is particularly interested in candidates in the field of contemporary history to fill the Chair of Rhetoric. The appointments will take effect in September 1994.

Gresham College was established in 1597 under the Will of Sir Thomas Gresham, and is primarily concerned to support programmes of free public lectures in the general areas of the disciplines provided for under the terms of Gresham's bequest. The College also arranges seminars and conferences in which the Professors may choose to be involved.

The appointments will be for a period of three years, in the case of Geometry, and two years in the case of Rhetoric; the principal obligation is that Professors offer a minimum of six public lectures in each academic year, on some aspect of the discipline which they represent, to bring to a general audience an awareness of the significance and intellectual deviopment of the subject-matter chosen. An honorarium of £3,000 p.a. is payable.

Further particulars are available from the Provost, Ref. T, Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn, London, EC1N 2HH. Tel: 071-831 0575. Fax: 071-831 5208.

The closing date for applications is Monday 28 February 1994.

UWE BRISTOL — University of the West of England

Faculty Administrator

We need a flexible professional to lead and manage administrative support in the Faculty of Education, one of the leading providers of teacher training in the UK. This senior post calls for broad skills in managing people and systems and in supporting policy formulation and determination in the Faculty. The post, based at the Redland campus, offers good opportunities for career development in a stimulating and changing environment.

You should be qualified to degree or equivalent level, with a wide range of administrative experience including staff management, preferably in higher education. We would expect good interpersonal and influencing skills and you should be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. Computer literacy and experience of committee servicing are also highly desirable.

Salary will be in the range £19,300 - £22,300. We would particularly welcome applications from black people and members of other minority ethnic groups and disabled people all of whom are under represented in the workforce. Applications will be considered on merit.

For further information and an application form to be returned by 21 February 1994 please ring our 24 hour answerphone service on 0272 763813 or write to Personnel Services, UWE Bristol, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QY.

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**The Headmaster
Gordonstoun School,
Elgin, Moray IV30 2RF
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Fax: 0343 830074**

Gordonstoun School and Aberlour House are charitable organisations entirely solely to provide education for boys and girls aged 13-18 and 7-13 respectively.

POSTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

CENTRE FOR POSTGRADUATE GERMAN STUDIES

DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the Directorship of this newly founded Centre which is a joint venture between the University and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Directorship will be of professorial rank. The successful candidate will have an international reputation in the field of German Studies. Applications are particularly welcome from political and social scientists with a professional interest in contemporary Germany within the broader context of Europe. The appointment is from 1st October 1994. Salary in the professorial range.

Further details from Mr. P.J.F. Scott, Director of Staffing Services, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT (Tel: 021-414-3842). Closing date for applications Thursday 24th February 1994.

Working towards equal opportunities

Hugh Baird College

Principal

c£48,000 + PRP

Hugh Baird College is a tertiary college situated in Bootle, Merseyside. The College has grown by about 30% over the last three years and now has some 6500 students of whom about 2000 are full time. There are 160 full time teaching staff, approximately 60 FTE part time teaching staff and 90 support staff. A major building and refurbishing programme is underway estimated to cost £5 million.

The College has a strong reputation as a provider of high quality education, training, counselling and pastoral care. It is committed to equality of opportunity and openness of access.

Governors invite applications for this post, to start August/September 1994.

Candidates should have good academic qualifications, a strong record of achievement in management and a wide experience of Further Education.

The successful applicant will share our belief that incorporation represents a major opportunity for the college to enhance its outstanding record. He/she will have the vision and commitment to develop what has already been achieved by our staff and to widen the role of the college within the community.

An attractive remuneration package will be offered to include base salary negotiable around £48,000, performance related bonus and relocation expenses.

For an application package please telephone the Clerk to the Corporation on 051 934 4423 or write to him at Hugh Baird College, Balliol Road, Bootle, Merseyside L20 7EW.

Closing date for applications will be 28 February 1994 and interviews will be held during the week commencing 21 March 1994.

HUGH BAIRD COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL
of Geelong Grammar School

Following the appointment of Mr J.E. Lewis, as Head Master of Eton College, the Council of Geelong Grammar School invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the position of Principal.

Geelong Grammar School Australia is a co-educational day and boarding school on four campuses - Corio, Glamorgan, Highton and Timbertop. The total enrolment is approximately 1650 students from Kindergarten to Year 12.

The successful applicant would be expected to take up the position no later than 1 January 1995. It may be possible to negotiate an earlier start.

A booklet giving information about the position can be obtained from:

**The Chairman
Geelong Grammar School Council
C/- Level 10, 22 William Street
Melbourne Vic 3000
Australia**

Applications close on 28 February 1994 and should be sent to the above address.

GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL
CORIO GLAMORGAN HIGHTON TIMBERTOP

هكذا من الأصل

THEATRE page 34
Hilarious: Gogol's The Government Inspector planted in the wastes of rural Ulster in 1900

ARTS

BOOKS page 35
Praise for a survey of 20th-century poetry, but T.S. Eliot falls victim to political correctness

Taking a risk on the road

The Royal Ballet is hoping that small is beautiful, at least where touring is concerned. Debra Craine reports

In the good old days, when costs were low and subsidies were high, Britain's biggest ballet company would pack up its pointe shoes and tutus and take its great works on the road. From Bristol to Birmingham, Plymouth to Manchester, the likes of *Giselle*, *Manon*, *Cinderella* and *The Sleeping Beauty* were trundled around the regions.

This week, the Royal Ballet is on the road again, but this time the heavyweight heroines have been left at home, too grand to make the journey. Instead, Covent Garden's resident company is taking a smaller group to smaller venues to do smaller works, the majority never seen before. This new initiative, pithily titled Dance Bites, signals a major shift in Royal Ballet policy: from now on the company will be seen in the regions not as an opera house behemoth but as a troupe of top-notch dancers displayed in an adventurous repertoire.

The timing of this mini-tour is particularly apposite. It comes as the Royal Ballet is under attack both for the exclusivity of its high ticket prices at Covent Garden and for the conservative nature of its repertoire. So here is a chance to see Britain's premier ballet company outside its London base at ticket prices just 25 per cent of those in the Royal Opera House. And doing the kind of high-risk programme unlikely to be seen at home.

Starting tonight in Leicester and moving to Cambridge later in the week before winding up in Blackpool on February 15, two dozen dancers from the Royal Ballet will perform three new works — by house choreographers Ashley Page, William Tuckett and Matthew Hart — along with Ashton's *Monotones* (the "white" half) and William Forsythe's *Herman Schmerman*, a big hit at Covent Garden for Sylvie Guillem (who will perform it in Leicester and Cambridge). All three cities have been chosen because they have existing dance audiences: this is not a tour to introduce people to ballet.

"We are looking at this as a wonderful and very positive experiment and we'll see how it goes," says Andrew Kyle, director of touring for the Arts Council, which organised Dance Bites. "It may need to include some conventional programming and go to more obvious places. But if we can make this tour work, and I expect we will, I think it's exactly the way forward. We are certainly not going down the route of touring full-scale classical ballets."

Such words may disappoint regional audiences hoping to see their favourite ballets at cut-down prices: they may even disappoint the Royal Ballet itself which — in an ideal world — would have preferred to continue its large-scale touring in Britain. But there are irrefutable arguments for a new approach.

"In the past the idea was to take the big pieces to show them as near as possible to the way they were seen in the opera house," says Anthony Russell-Roberts, administrative director of the Royal Ballet. "We would have liked ideally to have gone on doing that, but it became clear when Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet rooted themselves in Birmingham [in 1990] that they were acquiring a lot of our key heritage works and major versions of the classics, so it wouldn't take a magician to realise that a few years down the line we wouldn't have too much that was different.

"The cost of touring large-scale productions was absolutely spectacular. And it's long been our view that what would be really good to do would be to find a formula that helped us to develop young choreographers. It won't have escaped your notice that with the extraordinary high prices we charge here that our rep has been unduly safe. And we're not pleased with that. So what's really exciting about Dance Bites is that it's an absolute intention to do a programme that does have a modern cutting edge."

While not exactly cheap, this "modern cutting edge" does save on the elaborate sets and inflated casts of the full-length story ballet. Large-scale touring costs about £130,000 a week; Dance Bites only £80,000. However, its income potential is also very limited: top price at the Leicester Haymarket is £15, compared with £57 at Covent Garden.

Still, in the long term, it is the development of new choreography that matters. According to Russell-Roberts, the Royal is keen to present a more challenging repertoire at the opera house and is looking to Dance Bites to help provide the material. Future years will see the tour expanded to two weeks and possibly three, and established choreographers from outside the Royal will also be invited to contribute. "We're not automatically saying there will be a link between the work on the mini-tour and in the house but it's something that would be highly desirable to have."

For a young choreographer like Matthew Hart the smaller scale of Dance Bites is a welcome opportunity to learn his craft. "It gives us the opportunity to create work without the pressure of an opera house audience. It's such a huge stage and you know the prestige that comes with the opera house — there is no way you want to fail."

For the more experienced Ashley Page, Dance Bites is also a plus, although he adds that rehearsals for his work *Renard* pointed up the shortcomings of trying to build a separate tour while maintaining a heavy performance load at the opera house.

"The problem is, and it's not the company's fault, it puts a hell of a strain on the rest of the repertoire, rehearsal-wise, so it's not an ideal situation to make new work in. Allowances have to be made to squeeze it in; and it puts a strain on the dancers because a handful are carrying the bulk of the load. It needs to be better organised time-wise."

● Dance Bites *opens tonight at the Leicester Haymarket (0533 539797)*

ANTHONY CRICKMAY

William Forsythe's Covent Garden hit *Herman Schmerman*, part of the Royal Ballet's new Dance Bites tour

DANCE

A gamble that pays off nicely

Resolution
The Place

WHO are all these people packing The Place night after night to see unknown dance groups? The "house full" signs have been up some evenings, and I have not seen many empty seats at all during the "Resolution" series.

Of course, the spectators are taking a gamble as well as the performers, and each of my three recent visits contained at least one dud on programmes ranging from two to five items. But the shows were never without some interest, and among the new contenders was at least one of whom you will hear more: **Arthur Pita**, still in his final year at the London Contemporary Dance School.

Pita had the audience cheering the energy, pace and originality of his dances for six fellow students in *Performance*, set to his own ingenious adaptation of speeches from Peter Handke's play, *Offending The Audience*, which discusses the gap between expectation and reality. Making the dancers (all women) wear one ballet pointe shoe with the other foot bare enabled him to develop unexpected patterns and combinations, and he underlined the effect of the text by using a video camera to show, on a big screen, what off-stage members of the cast were doing in the wings.

> ‘He wore nothing but a tattoo around his left arm’

Javier de Frutos, dancing a solo to Ravel's *Bolero*, made sure of the attention that other choreography cannot reach by wearing absolutely nothing except a tattoo around his left arm. Actually, I think that his amazing muscular control, his abrupt phrasing, and his staccato movement of fingers, feet, eyes, mouth and (almost) every part in between would have made their effect anyway. But why he called the dance *Simone And The Jacaranda Tree* is a mystery to me.

Nor can I tell what made **Catherine Seymour** decide that *King Lear Kept Bees* but she, James Ramsey and Jeanette Ross, imaginatively garbed by Angela Brookes, performed their arcane rituals with conviction. Equally arcane was a performance piece, *Seemingly So*, by **Neil Fisher**. His demonstration of cross-dressing (clever costuming by Lesley Crewdson) would have carried more weight as a meditation on sexual natures if the "surprise" ending had not been obvious all along because of the girlish manner he used for the early parts in male attire.

Liv Lorent gets my prize for musical impertinence thanks to her choice of one movement from Ravel's Violin Sonata to accompany *Rot*, an intermittently amusing facetious duet which she describes as "an unmarried woman's word on marriage". My prize for persistence goes to **Julie Blackman** for her solo *Chronicles From The Book Of Time*: she spent half an hour getting nowhere slowly, and threatens to develop and perform a whole collection of such "Chronicles" during 1994.

Beth Cassani seemed likely, for most of her four-hander, *Getting Nowhere Fast*, to rank only an honourable mention for theatrical presentation of manipulative relationships, because the conventional movement she used was less interesting than the ideas she put over. But in the last few minutes she suddenly added real movement interest with a hilarious, fast-moving demonstration of how to cheat at musical chairs. Developing that might even get her somewhere faster.

JOHN PERCIVAL

In the tunnel of baby love

Bambino Mio
BBC1
Dandelion Dead
ITV

‘You don't miss what you don't have’ is one of those trite, dishonest self-denials of which we Brits are so fond (worse things happen at sea). In last night's **Screen One: Bambino Mio** by Colin Welland, Julie Walters played Alice, an affluent but barren 42-year-old widow so desperate to adopt a baby that she jumped through flaming bureaucratic hoops, including a psychiatric check-up with a smirking shrink. "Did you miss not having a father?" he asked, scribbling and smiling. "You don't miss what you don't have," was her gay riposte. At which he abruptly stopped writing, and looked thoughtful.

The essential tug of this play may have escaped me, I admit it. The baby is a stumbling block. But even if one substituted a *different* object of desire — a packet of Hobnobs, for example — and traced Alice's grim, grally quest in chocolate-covered terms, it would still be difficult to empathise with such tunnel-vision, with so little else to go on.

Imagine: woman wants her own packet of Hobnobs. Finds herself with Hobnobs, but loses Hobnobs, traumatically, in huge, stunning, verdant French vineyard. Is told she can never have Hobnobs. Hears of foreign, unloved Hobnobs that can be had at hefty price. Flies to dusty South American city to be united with Hobnobs. And so on, until — what? Well, obviously, she gets some Hobnobs, and everyone cries with relief.

Georges Corraface and Julie Walters get their bambino in BBC1's "real-life" play

It was based on a true story, of course. Julie Walters was all brave and emotional, often filling the screen with a wet face pole-axed by grief, but underlying one's admiration for the performance, and for the character, was this niggling awareness that she was paying tribute to a *real person*, the way she did last year in Jack Rosenthal's *Wide-Eyed and Legless*, dying of ME.

I have no idea why the words "A True Story" are considered a recommendation for drama. A dramatist given free imaginative rein to write a play on this subject might have escaped the linearity of *Bambino Mio*, might have hinted at Alice's selfish motives, and would certainly have introduced far more interesting conflicts in the other areas of her life. That hunky, loyal, caring French boyfriend (Georges Corraface), for example, was too good to be true.

On the plus side, Colin Welland's clever, literate and sensitive script still held surprises ("You don't miss what you don't have"), and there were many good cinematic scenes not dependent on dialogue. After frantically searching a busy French transit lounge for her South American baby, Alice and the hunky boyfriend give up. She sits down and waits for him to bring coffee (I told you he was wonderful); and then hears baby gurgling sounds, very close by. The camera stays on her face, a paradoxical mixture of fear and certainty, before she dares to look. (This is a bit that wouldn't work so well with Hobnobs.)

As for supporting cast — oddly, there wasn't one. Everyone else was unknown, foreign, or a refugee from *Eldorado*. It shows how fragile the story was, that a few named actors would threaten to unbalance it.

Happily, no such problem faced LWT's firm-as-a-rock **Dandelion Dead** simultaneously on ITV (first of a two-parter), which was easily worth the mega-quids it reputedly cost to make. Richly filmed, leisurely paced and gloriously cast, it starred Michael Kitchen as a small, shallow, amiable 1920s wife-poisoner (a true story, alas), all cheek-shine, waistcoat and waxed moustache, a cross between Thomas Hardy and a boiled shrimp.

LYNNE TRUSS

ROCK: The new sound from Nashville and, below, folk without pain

Country queen in the making

Trisha Yearwood
Shaw Theatre

THE new wave of new country, or whatever it's being called this week, has been threatening to break on these shores for so long that even true believers must have found their thoughts turning, for a while, to the story of the boy who cried wolf. But with Garth Brooks's album installed in this week's top five and both of Wynonna's phenomenally successful albums finally being released here today, the predicted mass market breakthrough is beginning to look more of a reality.

Trisha Yearwood could be next in line. Her first two albums were both million-sellers in America but, more to the point, she is the first of the new breed of Nashville stars to make a firm commitment to tour Europe regularly.

The 29-year-old singer, who has a degree in business studies, presented an image a long way removed from the spangly glamour of an older generation of country queens. Although squeezed into a black outfit which made her look a bit like a circus ringmaster, her fair hair and well-scrubbed looks suggested the wholesome appeal of the girl next door. This chimed with a performing style which was, in the main, natural and unaffected, almost to the point of being plain.

Backed by a modern Nashville road band — five highly skilled musicians, two of them women, and all equally well versed in the conventions of rock as those of traditional country — she applied her agile, spotless voice to an impeccably well-groomed repertoire of other people's compositions.

Her music has frequently been likened to that of Linda Ronstadt, and as Yearwood's faithful version of the Eagles song, "New Kid In Town" underlined, if she had emerged in a previous decade she would have been categorised as a soft rock singer. But country's heartbeat has strengthened and quickened in recent years, and Yearwood has her finger firmly on the pulse.

She strode with a purposeful gait through her first hit, "She's In Love With The Boy", and the swampy "Wrong Side Of Memphis". There was a playful duet with pianist Becky Priest, which got a bit raucous towards the end. But some things never change, and it was the big, sentimental ballads which provided the centrepiece of the show, notably "The Nightingale", a haunting melody sung with just a piano accompaniment, and a bravura performance of "Down On My Knees", both from her current album, *The Song Remembers When*.

She came unstuck early on, succumbing to a brief coughing fit during "The Woman Before Me" only minutes after reminding us of a similar mishap when she played this venue last September. The incident confirmed an overall impression of a gifted singer for whom the stage is not a natural environment. Clearly not an exhibitionist by nature, and with no deep message of her own to impart, she seemed at times like a blank sheet of paper. It was a pleasant show and her technique was not in doubt. But there wasn't quite enough of *her* to go round.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Whimsical duo

Ultramarine
Astoria II

THERE was a time when the idea of folk music played on electric instruments conjured up terrible visions of bands like Steeleye Span and Renaissance. These were Seventies groups whose vocalists could only stay in tune by sticking fingers in their ears, a gesture which much of the listening public grimly repeated.

Twenty years on, Ultramarine — Paul Hammond and Ian Cooper — have been designated as the link between high-tech dance music and English pastoralism. Their two albums, *Every Man and Woman is a Star* and *United Kingdoms*, are carefully constructed soundscapes of electronic whimsy with which the Greenwich-based duo have established their idiosyncratic style.

Because Ultramarine favour instrumentals and because Robert Wyatt, guest vocalist on *United Kingdoms*, is otherwise engaged, there is little necessity for the earplugging antics of yesteryear at the band's performances. With Hammond playing bass and samplers and Cooper using a bank of mixers and other equipment to trigger off an array of sounds, a laid-back, thoughtful quality pervades. Expanded to a five-piece for live purposes, Matt Wates's fluid sax lines provided a lyric addition and the solid rhythm lines of their two openers, "No Time" and "Pansy", set the foundations for a concert that embraced an improvisatory heart.

Ultramarine occupy a unique position between studio-enhanced predictability and spontaneity. The architecture suggested by "British Summertime", "English Heritage" and "Hooter" was miles of sunlit colonnades and mazes.

This was, perhaps, picked up by a front row of dancers who, lacking only Isadora Duncan's togas to be truly authentic, inadvertently became the centre of attention for many of the crowd in the elbow-room-only throng. Hammond and Cooper are beaming, chunky chaps for whom the Lycra shorts and frenzied choreography of the dance genre are remote ideas. Crouching attentively over their instruments, they seemed shy and immobile.

It was left to drummer Simon Collins and keyboardist Simon Kay to provide the odd, rock-orientated gesture. A large screen on which images of cornfields at sunset and the like were projected was the only other visual element provided.

Boring? Not in the slightest. Acid House-inspired squelches gave way to perambulating piano riffs and snatches of steel guitar. An electronically reproduced Wyatt sang skat lines on "Badger", evoking a jazzy fusion. An encore, "Panther", strengthened Ultramarine's claim to a wide range of influences and the audience left, pensive and irredeemably curious for more.

LOUISE GRAY

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

GLORIANA A welcome chance for London audiences to see Opera North's acclaimed new production of Britten's Coronation opera. Phyllida Lloyd's stylish and convincing staging makes out a strong dramatic case for a work that has not always been so successful in the theatre. Josephine Barstow and Thomas Randle lead a strong cast; Paul Daniel conducts
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1066/1911). Tonight and Thurs, 7.30pm

CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF See a man change into a savage brute before your very eyes! New thriller by Ken Hill, who brought us *The Invisible Man*
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (081-534 0310). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Friday

SCHUMANN AND FRIENDS The last two days of this mini-festival features the **Medici String Quartet** with soloist Alfredo Perl, performing Schumann's Piano Quintet in E flat, Op 44 and Schubert's Piano Quintet in A, D667. Tomorrow, Nikolai Demidenko joins Raymond Leppard and the **English Chamber Orchestra** for a programme which includes Schumann's Overture, Scherzo and Finale in E, Op 52 and Symphony No 4 in D minor, Op 120, plus works from Hummel and Weber
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight and Tue, 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

BLACKPOOL. Adam Faith is in top form as the loveable rogue *Alfie*; he also directs this wry, nostalgic and highly watchable look at the Swinging Sixties.
Grand, Church Street (0253 28372) Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 5pm

GLASGOW. Giles Havergal's new staging of Donizetti's delightful *L'Elisir D'Amore*, his first production for **Scottish Opera**, is presented three nights this week. The promising young cast includes Simon Keenlyside, Paul Charles Clarke and Cheryl Barker; Marco Guidarini conducts.
Theatre Royal, Hope Street (041-332 9000). Tonight, Wed and Fri, 7.15pm

LEICESTER The Royal Ballet sets off on its new initiative — **Dance Bites** — this week. Twenty-seven dancers, including top stars such as Sylvie Guillem, perform a repertoire that includes the aggressively physical Herman Schmerman, a big hit at the Royal Opera House, and new ballets from William Tuckett and Matthew Hart. The highlight, at least in theatrical terms, should be Ashley Page's Renard, a new piece set to the Stravinsky score and designed by the bold Scottish artist Bruce McLean
Haymarket Theatre, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797) Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat Tues, 2pm.

WOLVERHAMPTON David Thacker's captivating Stratford production of **Two Gentlemen of Verona**, updated to the 1930s and with music from Gershwin and Cole Porter, continues its national tour
Grand, Lichfield Street (0902 29212). Tonight-Sat.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican All Human Life Hulton Deutsch Collection (071-638 4141) **British Museum** Deities and Devotions: Hindu art; Victorian Illustrated Books (071-636 1555) . **Festival Hall** Photographs of Sebastião Salgado (071-928 3002) . . . **National Portrait Gallery** Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII (071-306 0055) . . **National Gallery** Claude, the Poetic Landscape (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy of Arts** Art of the Ancient World; The Unknown Modigliani (071-439 7438) **Royal College of Art** John Minton, to Feb 9 (071-584 5020) . . **Serpentine** Wall to Wall (071-402 6075) . . **Tate** Writing on the Wall women artists (071-887 8008) . . . **Victoria & Albert** Fabergé (071-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◪ **AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY** Felicity Kendal plays a harassed wife and Griff Rhys Jones a frantic bachelor, in Peter Hall's most enjoyable production of Feydeau's *Le Dindon*.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **CABARET** Jane Horrocks (Sally Bowles) and Alan Cumming, fresh from Hamlet, as the MC, dancing with death in the last days before Hitler.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-867 1150) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat 3pm.

■ **DEAD FUNNY** Terry Johnson sets his latest dark comedy in the last days of Benny Hill. Zoë Wanamaker, Niall Buggy and David Haig in a fine cast.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm

■ **THE IRON MAN** Peter Townshend's disappointing rock opera based on Ted Hughes' modern fairytale and nowhere near as thrilling
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363) Tonight-Sat, at various times (1.30pm, 2.30pm, 7pm) Final week of performances

□ **EDDIE IZZARD** The man is back for another solo season of comedy and sharp good sense.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115) Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Mar 19

□ **KIT AND THE WIDOW: JANUARY SALE** Suave and stinging, the musical satirists pass comment on the social scene with their familiar skill.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat 6pm and 8.30pm.

□ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE** French and Saunders in wretchedly lightweight US play about lesbian fantasies
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 6pm and 8.45pm.

□ **PIAF** Elaine Paige in powerful voice as the Parisian sparrow. The play itself is rather less than marvellous
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Lorraine Brunning) and Sat 3pm.

RELATIVE VALUES. Susan Hampshire, Alison Fiske and Sarah Brigham head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. No performance tonight

□ **SEPTEMBER TIDE** Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion arrives in the West End again (last time 1948), from the King's Head. Susannah York plays the decent woman in love with her son-in-law
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed 3pm and Sat 4pm.

◪ **THE SKRIKER** Caryl Churchill's latest: an ancient shape-shifter (Kathryn Hunter) bursts out of the Underworld and pursues two young girls. Strange, strong stuff. Directed by Les Waters, designed by Anne Smart.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Tue, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.30pm

◪ **SWEENEY TODD** Declan Donnellan's superb staging of Sondheim's subtle, savage musical. Starring Denis Quilley and Julia McKenzie. From an adaptation by Christopher Bond
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 2pm

◪ **TAMBURLAINE THE GREAT** Antony Sher plays the gutsy, roaring tyrant for all he's worth. Terry Hands directs.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891) Tonight-tomorrow, 7.15pm

□ **THE THREE MUSKETEERS** From the boys who brought you *Thunderbirds F.A.B.*, three actors play a cast of hundreds in a sadly too ordinary version of this much-loved spoof
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (081-748 3354) Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Feb 19

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (071-867 1044) . . . □ **Buddy** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . □ **Carousel**, Shaftesbury (071-379 5399) . . ◪ **Cats** New London (071-405 0072) . □ **Crazy for You**, Prince Edward (071-734 8951) . . □ **Don't Dress for Dinner** Duchess (071-494 5070) . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe** Lyric (071-494 5045) . ■ **Grease** Dominion (071-580 9845) . . ◪ **Hot Stuff** Cambridge (071-494 5040) . . □ **An Inspector Calls** Aldwych (071-836 6404) . . □ **Medea** Wyndham's (071-867 1116) . ◪ **Les Miserables** Palace (071-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon** Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) . . □ **The Mousetrap**, St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . □ **Oleanna** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . □ **She Stoops to Conquer** Queens (071-494 5041) □ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . □ **Sunset Boulevard**, Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) . . □ **Travels With My Aunt** Whitehall (071-867 1119) . . . □ **The Woman in Black**, Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE BLUE KITE Tian Zhuangzhuang's powerful, beautiful study of one family's travails in post-war China.
ICA ◪ (071-930 3647)

BODIES, REST & MOTION (15) A likable cast, but a hollow film about rootless lives. Michael Sternberg directs Bridget Fonda, Tim Roth, Eric Stoltz.
MGMx Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

THE CONFORMIST (18). Bertolucci's spellbinding version of Moravia's novel about a professor sucked into 1930s Fascism, made in 1969. With Jean-Louis Trintignant, Dominique Sanda.
Everyman ◪ (071-435 1525) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148)

JACK BE NIMBLE (18): An adopted child (Alexis Arquette) grows up weird and violent. Jumbled but striking first feature from New Zeland talent Garth Maxwell.
Metro (071-437 0757)

LES VISITEURS (15) Crude, raucous time-travelling comedy, a huge hit in France. With Christian Clavier, Jean Reno. Director, Jean-Marc Poré.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **Screen on the Hill** ◪ (071-435 3366) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

◆ **WAYNE'S WORLD 2** (PG). The dude duo mount a rock concert. Silly but sweet comedy sequel, with Mike Myers and Dana Carvey. Director, Stephen Surrit.
MGMx Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** ◪ (071-370 2636) **Empire** ◪ (0800 888911) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

Kensington (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

◆ **MANHATTAN MURDER MYSTERY** (PG). Woody Allen and Diane Keaton turn amateur sleuths. Benign, frivolous comedy with Alan Alda and Anjelica Huston.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **Gate** ◪ (071-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426-915 353) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520)

◆ **MRS DOUBTFIRE** (12): Divorced dad gets hired as the family's housekeeper. Indulgent, crude and funny vehicle for Robin Williams. With Sally Field and Pierce Brosnan. Director, Chris Columbus.
Berbican ◪ (071-638 8891) **MGMx: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (071-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **A PERFECT WORLD** (15) Kevin Costner's criminal on the run with a kidnapped child, and Clint Eastwood in pursuit. Eastwood also directs.
MGMx: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **TOMBSTONE** (15). An unremarkable return to the OK Corral stars Kurt Russell and Val Kilmer.
MGMx: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426-914 501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

◆ **ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG). Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston in a somewhat overblown sequel, but with good stretches. From Barry Sonnenfeld.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE (U): Scorsese's spellbinding, heartfelt version of Edith Wharton's novel about stifled love in old New York. With Daniel Day-Lewis, Michelle Pfeiffer and Winona Ryder.
Odeon Leicester Square (0426 915683)

◆ **ANOTHER STAKEOUT** (PG): Return visit of Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez's bantering cops: comedy and action for the easily pleased. Director, John Badham
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

◆ **BHAJI ON THE BEACH** (15). Laboured, well-meaning ethnic comedy about Asian women on a day trip to Blackpool. Director, Gurinder Chadha.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

◆ **FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE** (15) Chen Kaige's Cannes prizewinner: a bumper bundle of dazzling visuals. Peking Opera, and Chinese history
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons:**

THEATRE: **Jeremy Kingston** recommends a hilarious Irish adaptation of a Russian classic

Ulster setting suits Gogol farce

The Government Inspector
Tricycle, Kilburn

DONALD COOPER

False pretences: Dan Gordon and Sylvester McCoy in Dubbeljoint's staging of *The Government Inspector*

CONTRARY to general opinion, critics love to laugh, and never did you hear such spirited gusts as came from a bunch of us at this excellent new/old comedy. Laughter began at the sight of Gerry Walsh, an actor who might call Fatty Arbuckle undernourished, disconcerted while dining alone to find a stranger dressed in fashionable purple gazing from a distance of mere inches at every morsel as it passes from plate to chomping jaws.

This example of wordless comedy is immediately followed by the scene that generally opens Gogol's play: a conference hastily called by the corrupt mayor (Mark Lambert) to alert his cronies to the rumoured approach of a snooper from the distant capital. A stroke of imaginative genius from director Pam Brighton or her designer Robert Ballagh transposes this meeting from the mayor's office to the local slaughterhouse, where the actors are dwarfed by a row of swinging carcasses through which they must duck and dodge.

The producing company is Dubbeljoint, a cross-border enterprise touring throughout Ireland — hence the name, from DUBlin and BELfast. Their inspired achievement is to have taken this satire on small-town skulduggery away from Gogol's remote Russian province and planted it down in the wastes of rural Ulster.

Another brainwave sets the action in 1900, when Protestant Ulstermen are stridently asserting their loyalty to Britain because the dreaded p-word — partition — is already being murmured. Mayor, judge, charity commissioner and the rest fawn on the posh-talking Englishman, out of money but full of airs, who they assume to be the inspector. The very fact that he comes from the capital — in this case, London — envelops him in glamour and, for the women, sexual allure.

Marie Jones's adaptation follows the broad course of the original but builds on the contempt and alarm felt by the Londoners for these Irish peasants. For them, Ireland is not just the land of the the shillelagh. Anywhere off the beaten track and an honest Anglican will find himself among Catholic cannibals. Hence Sylvester McCoy's tremor of panic when asked to comment on his master's parts.

Jones makes her bog-Irish cattle-rustlers irresistibly funny and the cast display their grotesque antics with unfailing zest and nimble physical glee. If Birdy Sweeney's glazed vagueness as the judge and Conleth Hill's twitteringly foppish schoolmaster stand out, it is because they are given particularly comic absurdities to deliver.

Hilarious sexual anguish torments the features of Dan Gordon, the presumed inspector, obliged to receive visitors while in bed with his host's wife (Eileen Pollock) on top of him beneath the blanket. The rapid sequence of calamities at the end of this scene, requiring four actors to be in the right spot walking, lying, kneeling and sitting, for a breakfast tray to smack its proper target, is an example of Brighton's excellently exact direction. Nor does she neglect the serious piece of grit at the centre of her comic pearl: two Irish women, dismissed by the Englishman, foretell a grim future. Gogol's play has had its original intention restored: a riot of laughter with a dark warning at its heart.

CONCERTS: Huge Mahler in Birmingham; a new-music festival of mixed quality in London

Thrills by the thousand

CBSO/Elder
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

IT IS ironic for the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra that discussion of its financial problems should happen to coincide with what must be the most expensive event it has ever presented. It is not easy to look frugal with 500 singers and 150 instrumentalists on the stage of Symphony Hall for the first Birmingham performance of Mahler's Eighth Symphony. Any argument that they reduce by a third the forces proverbially required for the so-called "Symphony of a Thousand" would not be very convincing.

A better argument would be that the money invested in the concert, which sold out immediately, was well spent. In artistic terms, Mark Elder's interpretation was a model of long-term strategic planning. While appearing to hold nothing back in the first part — an exceptionally clear, well-paced and firmly structured performance of Mahler's setting of "Veni Creator Spiritus" — he both established the basis for the second part and left room for another dimension.

The combined voices of the CBSO Chorus and the City of Birmingham Choir were so well prepared as to make the double fugue a lifting experience, rather than the uphill struggle it often is. And the children (from the School of S.Mary and S.Anne, Abbots Bromley, and from Shrewsbury Prep Schools) were confident enough to add the essential radiance.

The extra dimension achieved in the second part, in the setting of the closing scene of Goethe's *Faust*, was spiritual. No one could have missed the acoustic splendour of the ending, with Symphony Hall accommodating a bigger sound than it has ever had to contain before. Singularly impressive though that was, the greatness of the interpretation was in the preceding passage of reconciliation, its beauty sensationally, unashamedly and effectively heightened by the appearance of Susan Chilcott as Mater Gloriosa in the doorway of a reverberation chamber.

This was an ecstatic moment approached by some particularly eloquent solo singing from Amanda Roocroft and Anne-Marie Owens and most fervently greeted by the indefatigable John Mitchinson as Doctor Marianus. Generally well cast (the other soloists being Deborah Riedel, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, Jason Howard and Michael Druiett), it was a triumph of organisation on every level — including a BSIS award for the sponsor Eversheds — applied with purely musical integrity and rapturously applauded by the most attentive audience of the season.

GERALD LARNER

Back to the avant-garde

London New Music
Lilian Baylis

SOMEBODY should gently tell Chris Newman that anarchy is old hat. In the first of a short season of four new-music concerts called "One Day Tradition" and given by London New Music, this Adrian Mole-ish figure delivered some of his poems, a contrast indeed to Henry Cowell's Violin Suite of 1924 and Piano Trio in 9 Short Movements of 1965 (both Brahms and Bach redefined) that we had just heard.

Self-consciously smutty, these texts were not up to much. Newman liked Blake so intensely he couldn't leave him alone, he drily told us; so his homage, delivered in a stream of numbing, mostly monosyllabic stabs, randomly mixed up words from Blake to make utter nonsense.

Newman is an iconoclast, and the very point of his *Fariba* for string trio, piano and marimba of 1992-3 — I am surprised it took him longer than a few minutes to write — is that it is bad, untarnished by even a vestige of idea or technique. *London* (1992), which consisted of Newman yelling out a repeated melody while Wolfgang von Schweinitz, a proper composer whose work we heard the following evening, contributed the odd "boo-boom", had a few slightly funny lines. I have forgotten them all.

The following evening von Schweinitz presented more solid credentials. A two-movement String Trio, Op 17, written in 1978, showed plenty of imagination and confidence, though perhaps its rhetorical gestures were overdone. An identifiable harmonic idiom, orbiting around narrow clusters, is already evident.

The percussive writing in the third of his Three Studies, Op 23, for piano (Michael Blake), composed in 1984, was cleverly imbued with lyric qualities allowed to emerge at the end. And a recent song, "Sehr kleine Drachen", Op 32 (1992), while not exactly opening the promised new sonic vistas, provided an involvingly colourful, rhythmically infectious test of the techniques of both performers (Blake again, with the excellent Beth Griffith).

Gerald Barry's song "Water Parted" (1988), given by the same artists, combines blandness, silence and fury to make a curiously pregnant mixture. Barry is adept at creating atmospheres, and does so again in his interestingly named "—" (1979) for clarinets, viola, cello, piano and marimba, despite the fact that its material consists entirely of rising chromatic scales, at least until it ripens into its infectiously bluesy end.

Finally, Charles Mutter brilliantly tackled the demanding violin version of Barry's *Triorchic Blues*. This music's folky, jaunty Irishness sent us home with feet tapping.

STEPHEN PETTITT

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ENTERTAINMENTS

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THEATRES

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PLAYHOUSE BO/CC 071 839 4401 TIM PIGOTT SMITH in JANE EYRE Adapted by Fay Weldon "Epic...an enthralling, haunting piece of theatre" D Exp. Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat at 3.00

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ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (071 638 8891) cc Mon - Sun 9am-9pm) BARBICAN THEATRE TAMBURLAINE THE GREAT Ton't, Tomor 7.15 THE PIT WILDEST DREAMS Ton't, Tomor 7.15 STRATFORD-UPON-AVON (0789 295623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE WINTER VISITORS' SEASON 5 February - 12 March 1994 ASPECTS OF LOVE 8 - 19 February For free leaflet with full details phone 0789 205301 Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999.

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VAUDEVILLE BO/CC 071 836 9987 CC 071 497 9977 "THE ART OF REVUE MAKES A TRIUMPHANT RETURN TO THE WEST END" F.T. KIT & THE WIDOW A MUSICAL REVUE EXTENDED THRU FEB 'Achingly funny' Mail on Sunday 'The most engaging double-act since Morecambe & Wise' D.Tel 'They are the best' D.Mail 'Run don't walk to the Vaudeville' S.Exp 'Sublime' E.Std Mon-Fri 7.30, Sat 6 & 8.30

VICTORIA PALACE Box Off & cc (No bkg fee) 071 834 1317 CC (bkg fee)071 344 4444/497 9977 Groups 071 930 6123 * BUDDY * The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun * BUDDY * "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel * BUDDY * Mon-Thur 8.00 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sat 5.00 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF 5TH FANTASTIC YEAR OVER 1800 PERFORMANCES BOOKING TO SEPT '94

Stephen Spender praises a survey of modern poetry but sees its attempt to debunk T.S. Eliot as a symptom of political correctness

Exploding like poets

THE OXFORD COMPANION TO TWENTIETH CENTURY POETRY IN ENGLISH
Edited by Ian Hamilton
OUP, £25

In this collection of assessments of 20th-century poets writing in English Ian Hamilton, the editor, succeeds, on the whole triumphantly, in his declared aim of providing a map of modern poetry in English. He qualifies this by adding: "I want it to be seen as serious and useful, but I will not mind if it is read for fun, as a kind of documentary entertainment."

The book is produced in the style of earlier *Oxford Companions* to various literatures. The great difference is that the style and manner of previous volumes — despite acknowledgement to various "contributors" — is anonymous, whereas the contributions by various authors to the present volume are initialled, and the names corresponding to the initials easily discoverable from an introductory "key".

Inevitably most of the contributions are short paragraphs rather than essays. But there are many longer ones, some of them running to three or four double-column pages. The sum of these essays adds up to an anthology of informed current critical opinion about modern poetry. This is as revealing of 20th-century poetics as much of the poetry discussed.

Hamilton keeps his contributors on a loose rein, but all respond to certain editorial obligations laid on them: that they provide essential biographical material about each poet while describing the nature and character of the poetry; and that they perhaps indicate the degree of the poet's importance within some concept of modern poetry. Criticism may be damning, but only in cases where some reputation is completely bogus (as with Ella Wheeler Wilcox).

This book is not an arena for carrying on feuds between poets, and there are limits here to the outspoken: though fun is provided by some critics slipping in some snide remarks about their colleagues, especially the Americans. Thus in a thoughtful appraisal of John Berryman, Christopher Benfey remarks: "His imaginative life seems, in retrospect, a ventriloquist's search for an appropriate dummy"; and Martin Seymour-Smith, writing about Gregory Corso, comments drily: "Corso, less noticed in recent years, still writes, and has managed to hang on to his hard-won immaturity (or, in original Beat terms, innocence)".

Auden: a sovereign touch

A volume of this kind has (and should have, if it is to be alive) certain characteristics of a manifesto: something of which Hamilton is aware when in his introduction he relates "English" to "American" poetry, referring to arguments of A. Alvarez in his anthology *The New Poetry* and Helen Vendler's introduction to her anthology *Modern American Verse*. Considered as a manifesto, this *Oxford Companion* makes Auden the most important poet of the 20th century, an eminence established by his five pages, as against three and a half each to Eliot and to Yeats, three each to Robert Frost, Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell, two and a half to Philip Larkin, two each to Ezra Pound and William Carlos Williams.

The essay on Auden by Nicholas Jenkins is perhaps the most brilliantly informative in a collection which contains many excellent essays: among others, Seamus Heaney on Robert Lowell, Carel Rumens on Wallace Stevens, William Pritchard on Robert Frost, Blake Morrison on Philip Larkin, John Haffenden on William Empson, Amit Chaudhuri on D.H. Lawrence — to mention only a few which particularly struck me.

This volume serves a very good purpose in bringing poets like Dom Moraes from India, Chinua Achebe, Wole Soyinka from Nigeria, and other writers in English scattered through the world into the community of modern English poetry.

I suppose a book of this kind is bound to have a few let-downs. But the essay here on T.S. Eliot by Hugh Haughton seems worse than a let-down, a gigantic blot. It is written throughout in the kind of encyclopedese packaged gobbledegook which other writers here so successfully avoid. Haughton awards *The Waste Land* the following summation: "With its hallucinatory iconography of post-war London and stammering vision of psychic disintegration, it is one of the inescapable landmarks of 20th-century poetry. Much of Eliot's later career can be understood as an attempt to escape its consequences."

Eliot is treated throughout as a cunning manipulator of his own reputation. "His *Collected Poems*," we are told, "embodies one of the most complete and cunningly contrived oeuvres in 20th-century literature." And in conclusion: "Eliot's reactionary politics, religious orthodoxy, cultural elitism, and mandarin temperament have done much to render his work suspect to later readers on both sides of the Atlantic." The phrase "cultural elitist" here seems to give the game away. At this point Political Correctness seems to have sneaked into this volume.

The Liverpool poets are put down here, by Martin Seymour-Smith. Given the vociferous "poetry revival" which provides background music as I write these lines, an anthology of 20th-century poetry edited in the year 2000 will look very different from the present one. But probably it is in the Nineties that a century looks back on its own ripeness. This volume traces the modernism of Pound and Eliot, rooted in what they regarded as the tradition, the re-creation in old age of his individualistic Irish self by Yeats, and the exploitation of these by Auden who, with his irrepressible spontaneity, refused to be restrained by the pedantries of modernism.

Sir Stephen Spender's collection of new poems, Dolphins, will be published later this month by Faber.

The mole from Eden observes

CHILDREN

Brian Alderson

Russell Hoban is said to have been inspired to write the story of **M.O.L.E. Much Overworked Little Earthmover**, illustrated by Jan Pienkowski *(Cape £9.99)*, by seeing the unaccompanied run of Pienkowski's original pictures. As a sequence, though, these illustrations are not particularly original; they have a marked relationship to those in Virginia Lee Burton's classic picture book *The Little House*.

They are, nevertheless, a departure for Pienkowski — lush paintings with bags of technical effects — and, as with Burton, they show the wrecking of a beautiful rural habitat by tarmac, girders, pylons, and all the other unfortunate things you can now see even on a day-trip to Kent.

As one of the too-numerous body of "green" children's books, *M.O.L.E.* does at least have the distinction of Hoban's story-telling. He — in the person of the mole who has been with us since Eden — knows the value of burrowing under the obvious. His monitory words are the more forceful for the throwaway conversational tones of his underground observer.

Noah features briefly in *M.O.L.E.*, and in the **Noah's Ark Board Books** illustrated by Nicola Smee *(David Bennett £11.99)* he has a crate of baby-books all to himself. His own story, told in diminutive form, is followed by five more pretty, but rather unadventurous, animal picture books, all packed up together in a cardboard Ark, along with a set of four complementary animal bookmarks.

Mimi and the Witch by *Elizbieta (Gollancz £9.99)* is a toy theatre for young children, especially those with dexterous fingers. The play has ingredients of pantomime, including wolves, witches and a skeleton in a cupboard. You perform it by turning down the pages, scene by scene, so that the brisk, but amusing, script is horizontal on the lower leaf, with scenes and tab-operated characters vertical on the upper one. This is very jolly, but probably difficult to sustain with an audience of more than two or so at a time.

First published in 1965, the picture fable **Sven's Bridge** by Anita Lobel *(Julia MacRae £8.99)* now makes a most welcome return. It has to do with the foolishness of dictatorial fiat. A stupid king blasts Sven's bridge with his ship's cannon because it gets in his way. Later, of course, he falls into the river where the bridge actually should have been.

What really gives the book its character are Lobel's flatly-composed, iconic pictures, saying all that needs to be said with great simplicity, and bedight with borders of fresh flowers.

In **Tick Tock Tales: Stories to Read Around the Clock** by Margaret Mahy, illustrated by Wendy Smith *(Orion £9.99)*, the clock idea is a gimmick, an excuse for publishing 12 Mahy stories (most of them reprints) in a new format. That won't detract from the reading-aloud, though, for Mahy has a gift for making even the flimsiest story go with a swing, and Wendy Smith's fresh, child-like pictures are a fitting accompaniment.

Also reissued recently is Mahy's **Raging Robots and Unruly Uncles**, illustrated by Peter Stevenson *(Dent £8.50)* — a tremendous romp, notable for what one character calls "verbal liberation and latitude". Villains School, for instance, puts Hooligan Pie on the menu, garnished with peccadilloes, while Heroines Academy serves up Comfort, but almost always cold.

In **The Summer of the Haunting** by William Corlett *(Bodley Head £8.99)*, 14-year-old Emma has fluctuating affection for Harriet, her "upwardly mobile" single mum, who does classy interior decorating. During a spell at a country-house in Yorkshire the tensions coalesce with other, more ancient troubles until new and old crises are resolved together. This sometimes involves too many banging doors and mysterious voices, but at moments of climax Corlett knows how to deliver an authentic spooky frisson.

Since children's books are now so welcome a haven for tales about the depressed, the confused and the just plain weak, the praise given to **Listen to the Dark** by Maeve Henry *(Heinemann £9.99)* should cause no surprise. Young Mark Robson thinks that he is being haunted, and his efforts to find out why result in his uncovering a (fairly obvious) family secret, which has been carefully guarded by his domineering mum and his half-sloshed, redundant dad.

Such drab tales don't add much to the gaiety of nations, and this one seems to owe its plotting to William Mayne's *A Game of Dark*, but without any of the intense, humane vision of that great book.

JAN PIENKOWSKI

Two details of Pienkowski's pictures, which inspired Hoban's *M.O.L.E.*: they show how (left) men trample over mole himself and (above) destroy his rural habitat

PAPERBACKS

THE ORIENT EXPRESS
By Gregor von Rezzori
Vintage, £5.99

ONE might think that a novel with virtually no dialogue, filtered entirely through the wandering consciousness of a fatigued and self-loathing tycoon, would have little to recommend it. Yet the appeal lies not in its admittedly thin plot — in flight from his wife and fancy Manhattan lifestyle, the unnamed hero embarks on a long, nostalgic journey on the Orient Express across a ruined Europe — but in the Nabokovian pitch and dash of von Rezzori's sumptuous prose. And for all his gloom and millennial probings, this suave and sophisticated stylist is a writer of considerable humour.

THE SCORPIO ILLUSION
By Robert Ludlum
HarperCollins, £5.99

DESPITE, or perhaps due to, a fabulously unlikely plot and the complete absence of literary device, Ludlum's latest epic is extraordinarily difficult to put down. The world's most ruthless terrorist is plotting to kill the US president, thereby triggering a string of further assassinations. When the only man who can stop her finds that he's hunting his former lover, things get personal. Ludlum uses a combination of relentless pace and Bond-style heroics to produce another expert thriller.

● *Contributors: Jason Cowley, Alexander Ross*

BEWARE THE WEREWOLF

LONDON
Theatre Royal Stratford East
Feb 18
KEN Hill's adaptations of *Phantom of the Opera* and *The Invisible Man* both became huge successes on tour and in the West End. His latest monster musical, *Curse of the Werewolf*, stars Robin Nedwell and Toni Palmer and provides an evening of horror, mystery and laughs, mixed with extraordinary special effects. Members are offered seats for £10 (normally £15). Tel 081-534 0310
Richmond Theatre
Feb 21-23
SIAN Phillips and David McCallum in the classic drama *The Lion in Winter*. Buy £16 tickets for £13 and receive a free programme. Tel 081-940 0088
GLASGOW
Citizens Theatre
Feb 8-9, 15-16
TWO £6 tickets for the price of one for *The Admiral Jones*, Frederick Mohr's one-man show about the adventures of a Scottish seafarer. Tel 041-429 0022
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Theatre Royal
Feb 7-10
ANTHONY Head stars in *Rope*, Patrick Hamilton's thriller about two Oxford students who experiment with murder. Buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £10, £12, £14). Tel 091-232 2061
HULL
New Theatre
Feb 21
Francis Matthews and Georgine Hale in Alan Ayckbourn's *Absurd Person Singular*. Buy two £12 tickets for the price of one and attend the reception after the performance. Tel 0482 226655

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

LANCASTER
The Dukes
Feb 15-18
SET on board a luxury liner bound for New York, Tom Stoppard's *Rough Crossing* tells of the cast and writers of a new Broadway musical facing not just the weather but also a desperate search for an ending to their show. Tickets £4.50 (normally £8). Tel 0524 846817
LEICESTER
Haymarket Theatre
Feb 17-21
BUY two £14 tickets for £8 for Stephen King's chilling thriller, *Misery*, and receive a copy of the novel. Tel 0533 513310
BURY ST EDMUNDS
Theatre Royal
February 18-19
TICKETS have been reduced from £9.50 to £5.50 for a new dance piece from Motionhouse Dance Company. Tel 0284 769505

TO BOOK for any of this week's special offers telephone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive is the special price negotiated on members' behalf by the Theatre Club. To join the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, PO Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN or telephone 0206 41662 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries please telephone 071-387 9673

On the Kiwis' conscience

Alison Roberts

THE HOUSE OF STRIFE
By Maurice Shadbolt
Bloomsbury, £16.99

ONE OF BEN'S
A Tribe Transported
By Maurice Shadbolt
Bloomsbury, £17.99

BORN in 1932, Maurice Shadbolt is a well-known writer in New Zealand, with a handful of awards and a CBE for services to literature. But both these books, the final novel in Shadbolt's New Zealand wars trilogy and his autobiography, are distinguished less by their prose than by the author's skill as a plain — though not a simple — storyteller.

The novel's title should alert us. *The House of Strife* recalls Chaucer's *The House of Fame*, in which history becomes confused with fiction and untrustworthy messengers make up their own versions of events. Shadbolt's tale of the scrappy fighting between Maori warrior and British colonist employs the same playfulness.

His central character, Ferdinand Wildblood, is a romantic poet in Victorian London with a dastardly alter-ego, Henry Youngman. The latter, the real possessor of wild blood, writes scandalous popular fiction about wholly imagined South Sea adventure, both sexual and violent. Both are forced to flee England when Youngman's plagiarism leads to dark threats and chases down foggy backstreets.

Ending up in the newly colonised New Zealand, Wildblood begins a life of riotous pandering — between Maori tribeleaders who enjoy Youngman's yarn-spinning, and the British military, most of whom act and speak like Victorian cartoons with silly tri-cornered hats, big britches and swords.

Time and again real life proves stranger and less noble than Youngman's fiction, and while sensitive Maori chieftain John Heke wants the Englishman to write his tribesman story, to immortalise him as a brave and generous leader, the British are re-writing their own buffoonery, turning disaster into untruthful triumph.

Wildblood tells his story as a much older man back in London — a device which allows for sudden shifts of perspective and plenty of self-aware quips ("Bliss is not conducive to narrative interest . . . In respect of storytelling tempo the Author of All Things is seldom surpassed").

Beyond all this self-consciousness, the plot rolls on in a reasonably gripping way. It's a rompish story, full of innuendo and Boy's Own description of battles. Shadbolt sides with neither the Maoris nor the British — they are both equally human when it comes to fighting, cowardly sometimes, incompetent and riven by faction at others.

IF HE makes it humorously clear that we cannot trust official versions of the New Zealand wars, Shadbolt does convey their rough spirit. For someone who knew nothing about the island's colonisation, the novel, ironically enough, fills in gaps.

The early chapters of Shadbolt's autobiography, *One of Ben's*, are equally informative and characterful. Shadbolt the autobiographer uses language similar to that of Wildblood, personalising his history and filling it with ironic asides and one-liners.

His ancestors, transported from Hertfordshire for petty thievery — and perhaps worse — are big personalities. A colourful family tree emerges: here is Ernest Francis, Maurice's grandfather, beginning his own gruelling colonial Odyssey, often in trouble and eventually setting himself up as an obsessive lawyer.

Uncle Jack hits upon his own "rewarding vocation": "He became a prospering arsonist, with a professional's pride in his craft."

And Arklow Joe, Maurice's wife's father, is an atheist, a socialist and a book-hoarder, who tells stories to his descendants accompanied by an accordion or a fiddle.

When Shadbolt describes his many predecessors, often embroidering their lives with imagined dialogue, he is on interesting ground. He should have stopped with them.

The account of his own life is far less intriguing: mainly, and obviously, because it is not so historically novel. Time spent in Europe, particularly in Moscow and Sofia during the late fifties, is smokily glamorous. But ultimately the characters involved do not sustain interest. Really, one wants Shadbolt to turn them into pure fiction and so make them more satisfying in his ironic and entertaining style.

Alison Roberts is the arts correspondent of The Times.

Breakfast with the head

The school day is taking on a new shape at the City Technology Colleges. The TES joins the head and pupils of Telford CTC in the canteen for a working start

OUT FEBRUARY 11

TES
THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT
BOP THROUGH NEWSAGENTS EVERY FRIDAY

Capitalisation, week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 31. Dealings end February 11. §Contango day February 14. Settlement day February 21. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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1,904.40	Allied Irish	299	-6	..	3.6	14.8
3,520.30	Alls New Z	260	+9½	..	3.4	21.2
10,754.40	Bankamerica	3035	-6½	..	..	..
1,400.10	Bk of Ireland	297	-8	..	4.2	21.9
29.60	Bk Leumi UK	375	..	17.0	3.7	..
2,671.40	Bank Scotland	229½	-11½	4.6	2.5	31.2
9,981.50	Barclays	615	-12	..	2.5	..
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804.70	Hambros	458	..	14.3	3.9	21.2
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1,437.30	Schroders	1425	+3	..	1.1	28.4
3,434.40	Stand Chart	1431	+94	20.5	1.8	..
4,288.40	TSB	252	+6	..	3.5	21.0
37.40	Union Disc	197	+16	..	..	..
2,183.00	Warbury SG	1006	+8	..	2.5	14.7
5,041.20	Wells Fargo	4100	+156½	..	3.0	..
4,505.80	Westpac	257	+10	..	2.1	∞
33.10	Wintrust	500	-30	..	3.1	34.6

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5,938.80	Allied-Lyons	635 †	-2	..	4.2	17.6
4,765.30	Bass	596	-15	..	4.5	14.6
341.20	Boddingtons	283	+5	7.5	3.3	16.5
237.90	Bulmer (HP)	457 †	-25	..	2.9	16.3
39.20	Burnmed Brw	174 †	-1	4.7	3.4	14.5
32.70	Eldridge P 'A'a	168 †	+4	..	2.6	23.3
2,044.10	Fosters Brewing	63½	+1½	..	4.5	20.0
94.40	Fuller Sm 'A'a	465	+5	7.5	2.0	19.5
9,063.50	Grand Met	466 †	-14	..	3.5	18.1
974.60	Greenalls Grp	467 †	-1	..	3.3	16.1
238.10	Greene King	563 †	-1	..	2.8	15.8
10,497.40	Guinness	322	-5	..	2.9	19.5
26.70	Halkin Hldgs	73	+7	..	2.7	..
65.20	Hardy Hanson	261 †	-3	..	4.1	14.0
3.81	Heavitree a	150	+15	3.6	3.1	∞
504.60	Highland Dist	446	+30	..	1.6	22.2
44.50	Holt J	3150	..	62.0	1.7	20.5
174.80	Macallan-Glen	150	-9	4.3	3.6	33.7
60.50	Maclin Martin 'A'	445	..	..	2.5	21.2
142.50	Marstfield	222	-9	..	2.1	19.9
269.10	Mitson Thump	297	-3	..	2.3	16.6
132.00	Matthew Clark	579	-6	..	3.9	32.8
25.90	Strydom W	236	-10	7.0	3.7	21.3
116.70	Morland	543 †	..	..	2.2	16.7
5.28	Paramounts	10½	..	..	1.8	18.9
36.20	Regent Inns	247	+16	..	2.3	25.1
7,578.50	SA Breweries	1400	+139½	..	2.0	23.2
2,926.40	Scot & Nwc	953 †	-22	..	3.9	16.9
198.70	Taunton Cider	180 †	-7	6.2	4.3	14.1
411.10	Vaux Group	296 †	+1	..	4.0	19.1
131.60	Wetherspoon PD	420	+35	..	1.6	32.6
2,949.40	Whitbread 'A'	567	-25	..	4.0	13.6
364.40	Wolverhmptn D	558	+26	..	2.8	15.7
15.30	Young 'A'	529	+5	14.7	3.5	21.8

BUILDING, ROADS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
79.40	Abbey	205 †	+15	..	1.2	33.7
16.00	Albrightsons a	23 †	+3	..	0.5	..
53.30	Allens a	200	+22	..	3.1	45.3
317.40	Amec	154	+13	3.0	2.4	28.5
4.15	Anglia Sec	12½	-2	..	..	..
119.40	Ashtead a	38½	..	..	1.5	41.0
438.20	Atwoods	155	..	..	4.0	..
1,766.80	BPB Ind	355	+6	..	2.7	42.5
49.20	Baggeridge Brk	124 †	..	..	3.2	37.3
4.08	Bailey (Ben) Con	30	-2	0.6	1.9	..
13.40	Barcrom	72 †	..	..	5.5	8.6
304.40	Bardon	55	+2	2.0	4.5	27.1
501.90	Barran Dev	277	+9	..	1.5	29.8
279.10	Bellway	286	+10	..	2.6	26.9
25.40	Bellwinch	58	-2	..	..	..
341.90	Berkeley Ind	329 †	+8	..	..	..
434.10	Berkeley Gp	563 †	+30	..	1.4	30.4
22.50	Best Bros	150	..	..	1.7	19.4
18.20	Blockleys	71	-7	1.0	1.4	78.4
2,525.30	Blue Circle	365	-10	..	3.9	..
88.90	Boot (Henry)	342	..	6.0	2.3	19.1
32.10	Breedon PLC	113	+5	4.6	5.1	27.8
25.30	Br Dredging	143	+6	5.2	4.5	31.7
18.30	Brit Fittings	79	..	1.7	2.8	..
513.70	Bryant	186	+7	..	3.2	37.5
51.00	CALA	145	..	..	2.0	..
1,345.50	CRH	383	+3	..	2.2	21.0
3.06	Calebrdad Roy	51	+13	..	..	..
212.40	Costain	41	-2½	..	..	..
135.10	Countryside	177	+4	..	2.0	∞
113.20	Crest Nicholson	114	+16	..	1.1	∞
24.90	Cussins	140	+15	..	0.9	..
13.20	Edmund Hdgs	25	..	0.3	1.5	..
58.10	Epwin	295	+13	7.0	3.0	25.0
36.90	Erith	78	-2	0.3	0.6	..
44.80	Eve Group a	470	..	..	2.8	17.7
15.40	Freeman Gp a	222	-2	5.0	2.8	35.3
50.60	Galliford	57	+10	..	2.2	..
1.96	Gibbs & Dandy	91	+4	..	2.7	..
103.50	Gleeson (M)	1025	+25	..	1.6	17.8
395.50	Hawden-Stuart	173	+7	..	2.0	37.0
4.31	Hewetson	50	..	..	3.2	36.5
428.20	Heywd Wim	458 †	+36	13.0	4.0	..
58.50	Higgs & Hill	133	-11	2.5	3.3	..
13.60	How Gp	33	-1	..	4.3	..
6.66	Howard Hldgs	26	..	0.5	1.4	..
222.80	Hystock Johnsen	89	..	1.0	1.4	..
15.60	Jarvis	23	..	..	..	..
186.40	Laing (J)	407	+42	9.0	2.8	16.3
61.80	do- 6.4% Cv Pf	154	+12½	..	5.2	..
12.50	Ln Clydesdale	138 †	+1	4.8	4.3	∞
67.90	Lovell (T)	170	+17½	..	..	77.2
190.00	Manders	400	+6	9.3	2.9	24.5
553.50	Marley	194	-10	4.2	2.7	56.9
190.00	Marshalls	148 †	+1	..	3.4	..
62.70	Maunders (J)	253	..	..	2.5	26.4
158.20	Mcalpine (A)	280	+4	6.5	2.9	48.5
54.80	McCarthy & S	70	+½	0.5	0.8	..
683.60	Meyer Int	546 †	-8	..	2.3	54.7
189.80	Mowlem (J)	174	+5	4.0	2.9	..
33.60	NSM	196	+14	..	..	..
8.64	Needler a	46	..	..	3.9	21.5
234.40	Newman Tnks	194	+3	..	4.3	25.9
370.40	Persimmon	376	+34	8.6	2.9	38.4
3.99	Phoenix Timber	17	..	..	..	..
18.50	Pochin	178½	..	2.0	3.0	25.4
136.80	Prowting	179	-4	3.4	2.4	..
1,905.00	RMC Gp	967	-32	..	2.6	36.3
210.40	Raine Ind	112	+14	..	3.3	36.5
6.72	Ramusa	28 †	-3	..	..	..
3,192.10	Redland	613	+17	25.0	5.1	35.7
10.90	Rexel	73	+1	4.3	7.4	10.8
975.70	Rugby Group	533	-6	6.4	2.4	25.5
9.40	Scrfld-Fwce	60	+1	..	0.5	..
39.00	Sharpe & Fisher	148	+14	..	2.6	32.9
179.30	Sheffield Insl	275	+12	..	2.5	67.5
27.30	Sheriff Hldgs a	200 †	..	..	2.5	27.8
3.74	Shorrock	109	-2	5.3	6.0	24.8
24.20	Smart (J)	240	..	..	4.4	18.1
10.10	Staveley	3	..	..	..	..
1,791.30	Tarmac	194	-3	5.5	3.5	..
68.60	Tay Homes	235	+2	..	2.1	29.0
693.70	Taylor Woodrow	166	+1½	1.0	0.6	..
253.20	Tilbury Douglas	753	+25	33.0	5.5	24.6
6.00	Torex Hirst a	50 †	-3	0.4	0.8	..
364.90	Travis Perkins	357	+15	8.0	2.8	62.9
7.00	Trencherwood	28	-2½	..	..	..
14.30	Trs Group	33	-2	1.0	3.8	9.3
2.30	Tudora	21	..	0.2	1.5	..
51.10	Wheelpland	111	-4	2.5	2.8	39.9
37.30	Ward Hldgs	71	-5	..	..	..
1.12	Waterhouse a	45	-9	..	..	..
95.70	Watt, Blake	460	..	..	3.7	19.4
149.00	Westbury	224	+14	5.0	2.8	35.0
29.00	Wiggins	6½	-½	..	..	..
524.20	Wilson Bowden	563	-21	..	2.0	39.6
479.40	Wilson (C)	253	+21	3.9	1.9	43.8
429.40	Wimpey G	230	..	..	2.9	..
3.70	YRM	29	..	..	..	..

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
956.10	ADT	690	+21	..	..	..
15.70	Adam & Harvey	368	+5	12.0	4.4	6.7
6.15	Alf Lundows a	64	..	3.5	6.3	12.3
3.31	African Lakes	47	+3	2.0	4.3	..
162.40	Auto Sec	179	-5	..	5.5	24.9
1,420.00	BET Ord	152	..	..	1.9	0.1
79.00	BKS Res	145	+3	4.8	4.2	..
66.30	BPI	254	..	8.5	4.3	14.9
49.80	BSM	175	-2	..	4.1	15.3
36.50	Barbour Index	220	+1	3.1	4.7	14.9
20.00	Bristmed	23	..	0.7	3.0	..
49.60	Brit Data Mgt	204	+6	4.7	2.0	14.9
4.14	Broadcastlex	26	+2	..	1.2	32.7
8.43	Brooks Service	70	+5	..	6.9	..
59.40	CPT Gp	110	+4	..	3.3	19.7
105.20	Capita Group	222	+11	..	1.3	24.7
94.60	Casket Pr	55	-2	..	1.9	22.3
24.50	Chiltern Capital	26½	+1½	..	..	..
15.50	Christie	66	..	..	..	..
180.00	Chubb Sec	410 †	+11	..	1.6	25.5
4.30	Comacs	115	..	..	1.7	29.5
18.00	Corp Services	48	+6	..	..	..
32.60	Costs Cmbtz	65	+9	..	..	..
25.70	Dart	168	..	3.5	2.5	22.8
259.00	Davis Service	273	+16	..	3.7	20.6
25.30	DIY Data	139	+9	4.4	4.0	15.0
14.00	Corp Services	27½	+3½	0.7	2.9	..
3.70	Dom	168	..	..	3.2	37.5
51.00	CALA	145	..	..	2.0	..
1,345.50	CRH	383	+3	..	2.2	21.0
3.06	Calebrdad Roy	51	+13	..	..	..
212.40	Costain	41	-2½	..	..	..
135.10	Countryside	177	+4	..	2.0	∞
113.20	Crest Nicholson	114	+16	..	1.1	∞
24.90	Cussins	140	+15	..	0.9	..
13.20	Edmund Hdgs	25	..	0.3	1.5	..
58.10	Epwin	295	+13	7.0	3.0	25.0
36.90	Erith	78	-2	0.3	0.6	..
44.80	Eve Group a	470	..	..	2.8	17.7
15.40	Freeman Gp a	222	-2	5.0	2.8	35.3
50.60	Galliford	57	+10	..	2.2	..
1.96	Gibbs & Dandy	91	+4	..	2.7	..
103.50	Gleeson (M)	1025	+25	..	1.6	17.8
395.50	Hawden-Stuart	173	+7	..	2.0	37.0
4.31	Hewetson	50	..	..	3.2	36.5
428.20	Heywd Wim	458 †	+36	13.0	4.0	..
58.50	Higgs & Hill	133	-11	2.5	3.3	..
13.60	How Gp	33	-1	..	4.3	..
6.66	Howard Hldgs	26	..	0.5	1.4	..
222.80	Hystock Johnsen	89	..	1.0	1.4	..
15.60	Jarvis	23	..	..	..	..
186.40	Laing (J)	407	+42	9.0	2.8	16.3
61.80	do- 6.4% Cv Pf	154	+12½	..	5.2	..
12.50	Ln Clydesdale	138 †	+1	4.8	4.3	∞
67.90	Lovell (T)	170	+17½	..	..	77.2
190.00	Manders	400	+6	9.3	2.9	24.5
553.50	Marley	194	-10	4.2	2.7	56.9
190.00	Marshalls	148 †	+1	..	3.4	..
62.70	Maunders (J)	253	..	..	2.5	26.4
158.20	Mcalpine (A)	280	+4	6.5	2.9	48.5
54.80	McCarthy & S	70	+½	0.5	0.8	..
683.60	Meyer Int	546 †	-8	..	2.3	54.7
189.80	Mowlem (J)	174	+5	4.0	2.9	..
33.60	NSM	196	+14	..	..	..
8.64	Needler a	46	..	..	3.9	21.5
234.40	Newman Tnks	194	+3	..	4.3	25.9
370.40	Persimmon	376	+34	8.6	2.9	38.4
3.99	Phoenix Timber	17	..	..	..	..
18.50	Pochin	178½	..	2.0	3.0	25.4
136.80	Prowting	179	-4	3.4	2.4	..
1,905.00	RMC Gp	967	-32	..	2.6	36.3
210.40	Raine Ind	112	+14	..	3.3	36.5
6.72	Ramusa	28 †	-3	..	..	..
3,192.10	Redland	613	+17	25.0	5.1	35.7
10.90	Rexel	73	+1	4.3	7.4	10.8
975.70	Rugby Group	533	-6	6.4	2.4	25.5
9.40	Scrfld-Fwce	60	+1	..	0.5	..
39.00	Sharpe & Fisher	148	+14	..	2.6	32.9
179.30	Sheffield Insl	275	+12	..	2.5	67.5
27.30	Sheriff Hldgs a	200 †	..	..	2.5	27.8
3.74	Shorrock	109	-2	5.3	6.0	24.8
24.20	Smart (J)	240	..	..	4.4	18.1
10.10	Staveley	3	..	..	..	..
1,791.30	Tarmac	194	-3	5.5	3.5	..
68.60	Tay Homes	235	+2	..	2.1	29.0
693.70	Taylor Woodrow	166	+1½	1.0	0.6	..
253.20	Tilbury Douglas	753	+25	33.0	5.5	24.6
6.00	Torex Hirst a	50 †	-3	0.4	0.8	..
364.90	Travis Perkins	357	+15	8.0	2.8	62.9
7.00	Trencherwood	28	-2½	..	..	..
14.30	Trs Group	33	-2	1.0	3.8	9.3
2.30	Tudora	21	..	0.2	1.5	..
51.10	Wheelpland	111	-4	2.5	2.8	39.9
37.30	Ward Hldgs	71	-5	..	..	..
1.12	Waterhouse a	45	-9	..	..	..
95.70	Watt, Blake	460	..	..	3.7	19.4
149.00	Westbury	224	+14	5.0	2.8	35.0
29.00	Wiggins	6½	-½	..	..	..
524.20	Wilson Bowden	563	-21	..	2.0	39.6
479.40	Wilson (C)	253	+21	3.9	1.9	43.8
429.40	Wimpey G	230	..	..	2.9	..
3.70	YRM	29	..	..	..	..

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
734.30	Allied Colloids	270 †	-22	..	1.9	25.7
602.70	Amersham	1090	+5	..	1.7	32.2
22.20	Amtrol Uts	3	..	..	..	..
6,604.70	BASF DM	1115½	-9½	..	5.5	..
452.90	BTP	337 †	+6	..	3.5	27.1
9,197.50	Bayer DM50	£134	-90½	..	3.8	..
78.10	Biagrow	164	-7	0.5	4.3	14.1
94.80	Brent Chemn	125	-4	..	7.4	11.4
125.70	Br Bio-Tech	350	+20	..	..	..
7.01	Caird Gp	12½	-½	..	..	34.0
53.80	Connaught (W)	190	+7	7.2	4.3	21.4
2,166.60	Courtaulds	539	+31	..	3.3	13.5
481.90	Croda	269	-3	..	2.7	22.5
13.90	Doeflex	127	+3	4.6	4.5	9.9
229.90	Ellis & Everard	274 †	+3	..	3.5	23.5
12.40	Laird Cellular	41	+5½	0.8	2.2	19.0
103.50	Halstead (J)	346	+2	..	2.3	17.1
347.20	Hickson	200	+8	..	5.0	18.5
7,055.40	Hoechst	£119½	-16½	..	3.0	..
162.40	Holliday Chem	190	+3	..	2.4	17.5
5,855.40	ICI	811	+20	..	4.2	..
1,092.70	Laporte	855	+14	19.0	3.0	23.0
147.00	Leigh	230	-2	..	4.3	20.2
16.10	MTM	62	+3	..	..	..
4,979.20	Norsk Hydro	£39½	+5½	..	1.2	33.9
144.50	Paterson Zoch	591	+26	..	2.7	20.0
129.20	do- 7%	540	+43	..	2.9	19.5
115.00	Plysu	242	+5	..	3.6	20.8
45.10	Porvair	293	+4	5.8	1.0	31.3

BUILDING, ROADS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
38.20	Sutcliffe Speak	64	+4	..	..	..
117.30	Wardle Storeys	475	+6	..	4.5	22.0
45.10	Westmalme R	610	+5	17.0	3.5	20.6
213.40	Yorks Chem	367	+4	..	2.1	25.0
310.10	Yule Catto	312	+4	..	2.4	19.4
2,399.40	Zeneca	783	-23	..	4.4	46.2

DRAPERY, STORES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
42.60	Alexon	76	-7	..	4.9	..
242.20	Allders	225	+7	..	3.2	17.5
1,115.20	Argos Plc	375	+10	..	2.4	32.0
14.10	Ashley Group	10	-½	..	2.5	..
234.40	Ashley (Laura)	100	+7	0.1	0.1	..
275.30	Asprey	345	-3	5.2	1.9	23.2
61.10	Austin Reed	199	+5	..	1.6	..
71.50	Beatties (J) 'A'	167	+4	..	4.6	16.4
62.00	Bentalls	148	+4	1.0	1.0	..
139.40	Betterware	136	..	..	2.0	16.3
13.70	Blacks Leis	45 †	+4	2.2	6.5	..
492.20	Body Shop	261	+13	..	0.8	33.7
67.20	Brown & Jackson	10½	+½	..	1.0	5.4
557.40	Brown (N)	491	+20	..	1.9	28.9
916.10	Burton	58 †	+½	..	4.3	..
40.00	Cantors	241	-2	..	2.1	33.4
53.50	Church	495	..	12.5	3.2	44.0
28.00	Clinton Cards	165	..	4.3	3.3	19.9
1,878.30	Coats Vyella	279	+10	..	3.4	35.4
18.80	Colourtone a	93 †	-7½	5.6	7.5	16.7
32.40	City Casuals	169	..	..	3.0	15.7
315.40	Courts Furnish	179	+1	5.6	0.8	11.0
2.04	Crown Eye a	105	+10	7.5	5.7	11.3
2,016.20	Dalry Farm Ind	123½	+5½	..	3.0	17.8
136.70	Dewhirst (D)	108½	-1	0.8	0.9	34.3
831.60	Dixons Grp	210 †	-7	..	3.8	..
5.16	ERA Gp	9	..	..	..	..
6.96	Elys (Wimbldn)	991	..	16.0	3.5	19.9
28.60	Essex Furn	250	-2	..	1.8	40.0
171.70	Etam	263	+½	7.0	3.3	24.1
425.10	Fine Art Dev	534	-12	13.0	3.1	17.4
2.74	Fired Earth Tiles	48	..	..	..	..
16.70	Forminster	710 †	+2	14.5	2.6	12.9
34.80	French Conn a	155	+1	..	3.8	21.4
25.60	Gent SR	69	+1	..	..	..
37.20	Goldsmiths Gp	92	..	0.2	0.4	..
6,176.80	GUS	614	+36	..	2.4	18.9
3.74	Hampden Grp a	25	..	..	5.0	12.4
82.70	Harrisons	79	+17	..	..	..
38.20	Helene Plc	30½	..	2.0	6.2	14.4
4.49	Heritage a	46	-13	..	..	..
6.33	Hornysuckle a	78	+3	..	3.6	11.4
19.20	Jacques Vert	202	..	..	3.2	15.4
4,369.30	Kingfisher	642	+14	..	2.7	22.1
28.50	Leslie Wise Gp	63	+5	4.0	6.0	17.1
91.50	Liberty	545	..	7.2	1.1	64.2
42.30	Lloyds Chem	261	+2	..	2.5	12.7
1,030.30	MFI	177 †	+3½	..	..	2.7
11,678.50	Marks Spencer	421	+15½	..	2.5	21.5
374.20	Menzies (John)	675	+15	..	2.1	12.5
46.30	Mots Bros	277	+6	5.5	2.5	52.5
699.50	Next	234	+8	3.5	1.9	27.9
11.10	Oliver (G)	44	+2	..	..	..
173.20	Oriflame Ind	324 †	-8	..	3.8	15.9
50.40	Penios	35	-5	0.8	2.9	7.3
104.50	QS Hldgs	266	+8	5.1	2.4	18.9
35.30	Rhino Grps	42	..	..	..	..
29.60	Rosebys	201	..	..	3.0	24.1
200.50	Sherwood Gp	179	..	..	1.8	19.4
1,021.50	Sears	127	+2½	..	3.4	51.1
107.00	Stirner Group	26½	+1½	..	..	..
1,368.50	Smith WH 'A'	500	-15	..	3.8	16.0
168.50	do- B	211	-1	..	3.1	19.3
2.02	Specialeyes a	13	..	..	..	..
951.00	Storehouse	229	..	7.7	3.7	22.6
118.90	T & S Stores	186	+18	6.0	4.0	13.8
84.60	Tie Rack	141	-2	0.8	0.8	26.0
138.90	Time Products	262	..	7.7	3.7	22.6
9.09	Unger (Frank)a	130	+6	0.0	5.8	11.2
3,215.40	Vendome	400	-20	..	1.7	31.6
19.80	Vivat	36	..	1.0	2.5	17.1
91.00	WEW Group	63	+1	..	2.7	46.4
3.50	Welbome a	48	..	1.8	4.9	..
468.00	Wickes	125	-1	..	0.2	56.8
7.24	Wld of Leisure a	89	+5	..	..	..
73.90	Wyevale	193	-1	..	2.8	25.5
3.47	Yitz-vision a	2½	..	..	..	..

ELECTRICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
322.60	ACT Group	174	..	..	3.6	17.5
36.10	Acsis	267	..	..	3.1	18.9
52.70	Admiral	488	..	5.7	1.5	20.6
97.00	Alba	188	+13	..	3.2	21.2
10.50	Alphameric	39	+½	..	..	..
276.10	Armstrad	47½	+½	..	1.3	..
19.70	App Holos a	95	+2	..	..	..
22.30	Arlen	37	..	..	..	..
264.40	Asdar	85½	+1½	..	0.4	..
50.00	Atlas	270	+1	..	1.4	32.1
27.00	Beales Hunter	275 †	-½	..	4.3	17.0
4.24	Bennett & Fount	4	..	..	..	..
1,653.70	BICC	469	+7	19.2	5

Pay deal levels 'edging upwards'

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EARLY pay settlements in the new year are showing signs of edging upwards, a survey suggests today — warning of tougher wage negotiations in the coming months as the impact of the Budget tax rises begins to be felt.

The warning from Incomes Data Services, an independent analyst, runs counter to evidence from several other organisations, including the CBI, but employers are likely to pay heed to its findings.

The IDS survey says the first settlements being reached this year "indicate an upturn in the level of pay rises", with a growing number of settlements in the private sector running at 3 per cent and above.

Three-quarters of the 100 new pay deals recorded by IDS provided for increases of 2 to 3.9 per cent, with the largest number running at 2 to 2.9 per cent. But 29 deals registered are for rises of 3 to 3.9 per cent. While one in ten of the new deals is for a 1 to 1.9 per cent rise, this proportion is much lower than that recorded by IDS in the past few months.

IDS says that the upturn of settlements is partly accounted for by the absence of public sector settlements. But there is evidence that private sector companies are agreeing higher rises than last autumn, and the study records only seven pay freezes.

While a similar survey by Industrial Relations Services suggests that the fall in pay settlements seems to have levelled off, work carried out for IRS by the Institute for Fiscal Studies suggests that the tax rises will lead employees to experience a "significant squeeze" on disposable income over the coming year.

REPORTING THIS WEEK

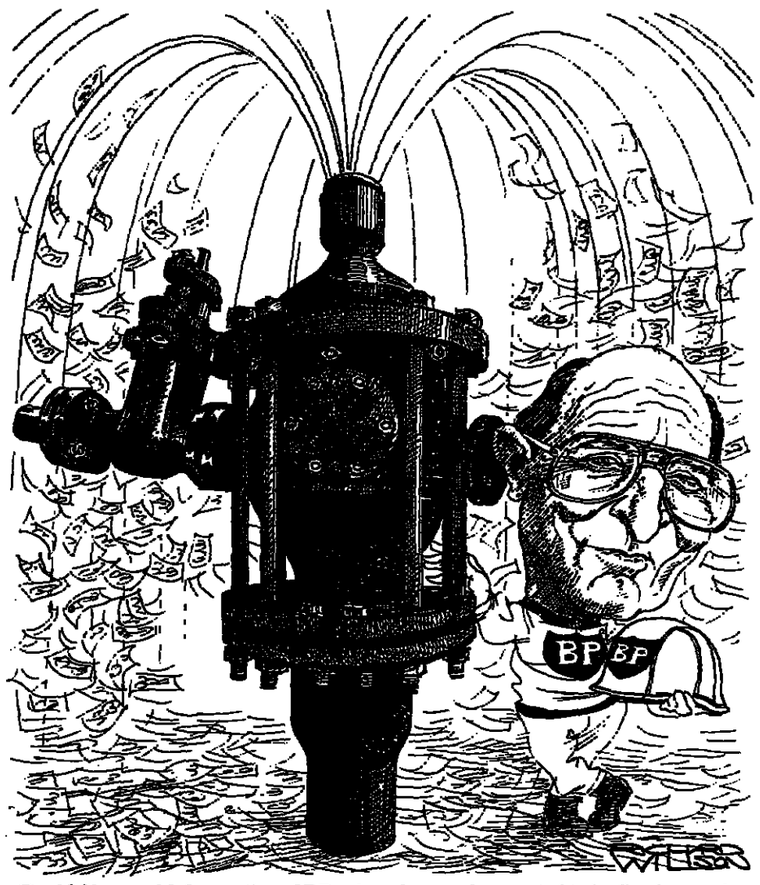
BP set to be back in black

A REBOUND into the black is expected at BP when it announces full-year figures on Thursday, with brokers forecasting net income of between £850 million and £1.2 billion.

This compares with a loss of £352 million in the previous year for BP, which is expected to confirm a £200 million fourth-quarter restructuring charge for the European petro-chemical operations.

Fergus MacLeod, of NatWest Securities, has pencilled in earnings per share of 16.7p, replacing losses per share last time of 6.5p, although he thinks the total dividend will drop 20 per cent to 8.4p from 10.5p.

It is thought the declining oil price, now under $15, will have been a mixed blessing, hitting upstream activities while bolstering downstream earnings. The market expects to hear that David Simon's group has seen a good performance in both refining and marketing.



David Simon, chief executive of BP, where income is expected to be flowing again

TODAY

Bryant Group, the housebuilder and contracting group, is likely to peg its dividend at 1.4p, although interim taxable profits should rise to £11 million (£7.5 million), according to Scott Fulton, construction analyst at Yamaichi. He believes Bryant may have had a difficult autumn, with some recovery in November and December.

Dalgety, the food manufacturer, is likely to have caught the backlash from the price war in the snacks industry. It is also thought the agri-business may have suffered from bad weather. Richard Workman, of Hoare Govett, is predicting flat interim pre-tax profits of £57 million (£56.6 million), and a slight rise in the dividend to 8.1p. (7.85p)

Interims: Peter Black Holdings, Bryant Group, Dalgety. Finals: Ganbel Investments, Hotspur Investments, P&P, Tullow Oil, Waste Management. Economic statistics: credit business (December), housing starts and completions (December).

TOMORROW

Forecasts of full-year pre-tax profits at **Reuters**, the media and financial information group, range from £430 million to £445 million. NatWest Securities is forecasting £436.7 million, compared with £358.6 million. The total dividend, it believes, will rise from 21.2p to 25.4p. The City thinks profits will have been propelled by Instinet, the business providing screen-based brokerage services to brokers and fund managers. It is currently showing growth rates of 50 per cent year-on-year.

Interims: Betacom, Hellon Holdings. Finals: Reuters, Stora. Economic statistics: cyclical indicators for the UK economy (January), Bank of England quarterly bulletin.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Elbief, Grosvenor Inns, Lloyds Abbey Life.

THURSDAY

BT is declaring third-quarter figures, with Robert Millington, of BZW, predicting a dip in taxable profits to £690 million (£705 million) due to continuing rationalisation costs.

BOC, the gases to healthcare group, is expected to produce first-quarter profits of about £72 million to £74 million (£91 million).

Interim profits at **Amstrad**, the consumer electronics company, are likely to have jumped to £7.5 million (£5.6 million), with a maintained dividend of 0.2p, Hoare Govett says.

Interims: Amstrad, BOC Group, British Telecom. Finals: British Petroleum, Harry Ramsden's. Economic statistics: details of employment, unemployment, earnings, prices and other indicators.

FRIDAY

The leading clearing banks' reporting season begins with **Lloyds Bank**. Tim Clarke, of Panmure Gordon, forecasts a boost in taxable profits to £1.1 billion, up from £801 million. He believes the total dividend will rise to 21.6p (18.4p), courtesy of earnings per share increasing from 35p to 49.3p. Lloyds is thought likely to benefit from country debt writebacks, with some UK recovery also expected.

Interims: Armour Trust, Trans-Natal Coal Corporation. Finals: Lloyds Bank, Baldwin. Economic statistics: usable steel production (January), insolvency statistics (Q4), bankruptcy statistics (Q4), balance of visible trade (November), share register survey (1992), analysis of bank lending to UK residents (Q4), capital issues and redemptions (January).

MARTIN FLANAGAN

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Spurs will pursue costs claim against Venables

TOTTENHAM Hotspur, the publicly quoted football club chaired by Alan Sugar, will not consider any out-of-court settlement over costs with Terry Venables, the former chief executive ousted last summer. Sources close to the continuing dispute say Mr Venables's appointment as England football manager, and speculation that he might drop his claim for unfair dismissal against Tottenham, would not deflect the club from its efforts to obtain the legal costs awarded to it in the High Court last year against Edennote, one of Mr Venables's companies.

A source said it was felt that shareholders would be disgruntled if Tottenham dropped its claim for costs, and Mr Sugar was determined to pursue it. It would make no difference if Mr Venables dropped his claim for unfair dismissal. Tottenham, which has plunged near to the relegation zone in the Premier Division, and faces certain loss of revenue if relegated, is claiming £450,000 in legal costs. That is being assessed by the High Court's Taxing Master. If he agrees with the amount of the claim, and the money is not forthcoming, it is understood Tottenham will consider suing, or attempt to get Edennote wound up.

Banesto buyers queue

BUYERS are lining up for Banco Español de Credito (Banesto), the troubled Spanish bank. Emilio Botin, chairman of Banco Santander, said at the weekend that he was considering a bid when Banesto came up for auction. He said the current share price of around 800 pesetas (£3.80) was over-optimistic. "Watch out," he added, "because the restructuring plan has not yet been approved. If it isn't, you'll see what Banesto is worth."

Inspec plans flotation

INSPEC Group, the speciality chemicals concern created through a £40 million management buyout from BP in 1992, plans to be listed on the Stock Exchange within the next three months after a flotation expected to value the company at in excess of £100 million. Aggregate sales in 1993 were £56.4 million, from which operating profits of £9.7 million were generated. Morgan Grenfell has been appointed sponsor to the flotation and Cazenove is the broker.

Beazer names chairman

VICTOR Benjamin, deputy chairman of Tesco and Lex Service, has been named as chairman-designate of Beazer Homes (UK), the Hanson-owned housebuilding group to be floated in March. Dennis Webb, Beazer's chief executive, said that a pathfinder prospectus would be issued on February 24 and a full prospectus on March 10. Analysts expect the issue to raise about £400 million for Hanson, which will use the funds to reduce debt.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.22	2.02
Austria Sch	19.17	17.67
Belgium Fr	56.56	52.16
Canada $	2.085	1.925
Cyprus Cyp£	0.805	0.755
Denmark Kr	10.66	9.86
Finland Mkk	8.93	8.13
France Fr	9.23	8.53
Germany Dm	2.74	2.53
Greece Dr	394.00	369.00
Hong Kong $	12.15	11.15
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2610.00	2455.00
Japan Yen	178.50	159.50
Malta	0.622	0.567
Netherlds Gld	3.049	2.819
Norway Kr	11.71	10.91
Portugal Esc	270.50	252.00
S Africa Rd	5.85	4.95
Spain Pta	217.50	203.50
Sweden Kr	12.31	11.51
Switzerland Fr	2.30	2.12
Turkey Lira	26843.0	25343.0
USA $	1.587	1.457

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.4924 (-0.0114)
German mark
2.5904 (-0.0089)
Exchange index
81.7 (-0.7)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2668.8 (+29.3)
FT-SE 100
3475.4 (+28.0)
New York Dow Jones
3871.42 (-74.01)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
20301.43 (+1543.55)

Britain's growing economy could shrug off tax increases

GILT-EDGED

Where have all the pessimists and contrarians gone? A hardening consensus on the outlook for the economy and interest rates is roughly this: growth will average 2.5 per cent this year; underlying inflation will end the year about 3 per cent; base rates will fall to 4.5 per cent and ten-year gilt yields to 5.5 per cent. The first four writers of this column in 1994 seemed to share this kind of view. When four economists meet, the result is usually five or six opinions, so it is time to ask awkward questions.

I suggest looking overseas for inspiration — to the US on the economy and to Germany on interest rates.

First, growth. Higher taxes will dampen consumer demand, but the effect may have been exaggerated. One reason is that the bad news came in two slugs (in March last year and November) and has had time to sink in. A shock effect of announcing huge tax increases to take effect at once has been avoided.

Moreover, the degree of fiscal tightening in the UK in 1994 and 1995 will be, on my reckoning, similar to that in the US in 1993-95. The UK is packing into two years what the US is spreading over three. Yet US growth is about 3 per cent and expected to remain so. Why should the UK, recovering from a deeper downturn, not achieve similar growth?

The composition of US growth is also instructive. In the year to the fourth quarter, US GDP grew by $144 billion in 1987 prices. Consumption expanded by $107 billion, but the surprise was a $101 billion increase in housing, business and inventory investment. (Declines in government spending and net exports balanced the accounts). The same mix of tight fiscal and loose monetary policy (including the lower pound) could produce the same "surprise" in the UK.

Inflation has fallen steadily in the US, despite nearly three years of growth and a rapidly closing output gap. There are many similar forces at work in the US and the UK: consumers who refuse to pay the full price; continued benefits from corporate restructuring; weak oil prices due to slack demand and Opec indiscipline; modest wages growth in response to high unemployment; competition in the goods market from overseas producers and so on. In 1993, the market was regularly surprised by the slow pace of UK inflation: the same may apply in 1994.

Turning to interest rates, though, it is Germany rather than the US that holds the key. The first plank to the case for 4 per cent base rates is the need to offset higher taxes. It has already been suggested that this argument may be less compelling than it appears.

The second plank is that German rates still have some way to fall. Many forecasters expect 4.5 per cent three-month German rates by year-end. Thus, the argument runs, sterling will rise and the UK authorities will cut rates.

However, the Bundesbank has significantly slowed the pace of interest rate easing: the last change in official rates was on October 21. One reason is the desire to resist any weakening of the mark against the dollar, but a side-effect may be to limit any downside versus the pound. I share the market view that German rates will reach 4.5 per cent (or even lower) but the speed of decline may be too slow for the currency markets and UK base rates may struggle to move below 5 per cent.

The German factor may also limit the downside on gilt yields. The ten-year yield spread of gilts over bunds reached a 20-year low of 40 basis points in January, down from more than 200 points three years ago. But is such a historically narrow spread justified? I would not trust this Government (or a Labour one) to keep UK inflation within 0.4 per cent of German inflation over the next decade, especially with sterling outside the ERM. Nor is UK growth likely to be much below Germany's, thus justifying a lower real yield. And international investors should not be expected to find a zero risk premium on gilts over bunds attractive.

So, to achieve a 5.5 per cent ten-year gilt yield, the yield on ten-year bunds would need to fall at least to 5 per cent for the first time since records began. It is not quite mission impossible but it requires a lot of faith.

Try this intellectual exercise. You are given a forecast of 3.5 per cent annual growth and end-year readings of 2.5 per cent underlying inflation, 5 per cent base rates and 6.5 per cent ten-year gilt yields. You have to defend it. It may not be as difficult as you think.

DICK HOWARD
Julius Baer Investments

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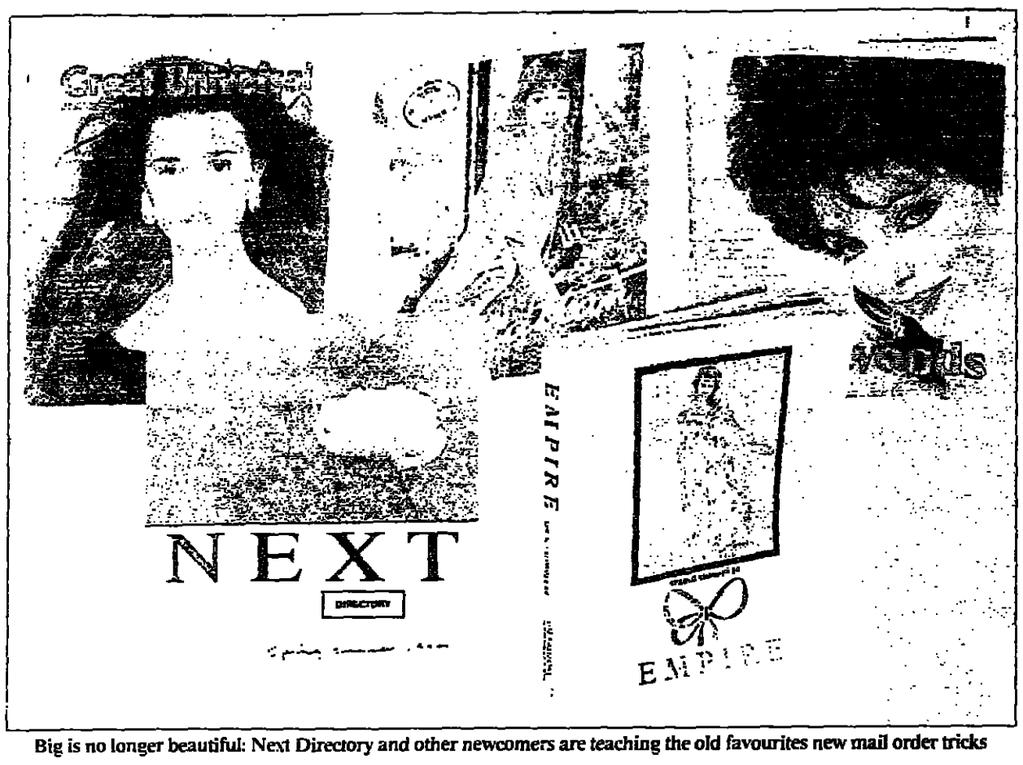
The direct route can lead to a catalogue of success

Mail order may have an old-fashioned feel but **Susan Gilchrist** finds a market that, far from being dead, has clear signs of life



Big is no longer beautiful: Next Directory and other newcomers are teaching the old favourites new mail order tricks

Critics have been quick to write the obituary of the mail order industry. The very name conjures up images of huge catalogues, unfashionable clothes and agents knocking on the door. It all seems a world away from the more sophisticated and commercial environment of the high street.

Certainly, mail order has suffered from increasing competition from the high street. Its share of total retail sales has fallen from 3.5 per cent to 3.16 per cent during the past six years, according to Verdict, the retail consultant. But rumours of its demise are greatly exaggerated. There is still a £4.4 billion market up for grabs and companies such as N Brown and Fine Art Developments have proved it can be immensely lucrative.

Where mail order life gets tough is in the agency business. More than 80 per cent of sales are still made through agents, but there is little real growth in the sector and the "big five" players — GUS, Littlewoods, Freemans, Grattan and Empire — have found themselves competing for a static agent pool.

Attempts to attract new recruits have not always met with success. In the 1980s, the big five launched a series of inducements, including free gifts, to attract new agents and gain market share. But Robert Grech, of the Catalog Workshop, the consultancy partnership, says many of the new agents "did not want the hassle of taking parcels to their neighbours and collecting money every week. So while there appeared to be a leap in the number of agents, they did not have the loyalty or the repeat purchasing ability of traditional agents". The schemes also encouraged switching and the operation of multiple agency accounts.

But more problematic, says Mr Grech, is the decline in the number of customers. This is partly a result of social change. Agents first appeared after the First World War and it was not unusual to find 20 or 30 people in a single road buying from one agent. Today, an agent has, on average, only two or three customers. "The agent is still buying for herself and her family, but not for her friends and neighbours. Her worth as a source of income has declined," Mr Grech says.

At the same time, the high street has got its act together offering more exciting products, longer opening hours and, critically, credit — the mail order firms' strongest unique selling proposition.

But while the agency side of mail order has seen little growth and intensifying competition in recent years, direct mail order has flourished. Companies such as Next, N Brown and Lands' End have rejected agents and chosen to go straight to the consumer through advertising and mail shots. Jim Martin, chief executive of N Brown, says: "With consumers becoming increasingly private and preferring confidentiality we felt that direct was where the future lay." The company has quadrupled in size over the past ten years, has about 4 per cent of the market and is closing the gap on Empire.

Mr Grech says: "The trouble with agency is that you know an awful lot about your agents, but you don't know anything about your customers." By dealing with customers directly, companies can build up extensive databases on how frequently they buy, what they prefer, how much they spend and whether they respond to special promotions. The big five have recently started moving towards customer accounting.

Whereas agency mail order companies tend to produce a large, 1,000-page catalogue twice a year, N Brown sends out about five special interest brochures every month, ranging from 8 to 150 pages, as well as its twice yearly 350-page catalogue. Mr Martin says the special interest brochures now generate a third of group sales.

The big five have not been blind to the potential offered by direct mail order and have entered the sector with varying degrees of success. GUS is the largest player in the market with direct sales accounting for about 15 per cent of group turnover, according to Verdict. Grattan has also built up a sizable direct business.

The big five have also lost out in the buoyant growth of niche mail order. The trend mirrors the move towards specialist retailing in the high street started in the 1980s. Richard Hyman, of Verdict, agrees: "The future for mail order is in niches. The big five should be using the cash flow generated by their big book business to invest in new niches." In America there has been a switch from big books to speciality catalogues in the past ten years. Today about 80 per cent of all mail order sales in America are purchased from a speciality catalogue. Mr Grech believes Britain will gradually move towards a similar situation.

Mr Martin says N Brown's success stems from careful selection of a series of niches that are inadequately catered for in the high street. Its catalogues appeal to the older and larger woman and have in many ways become a "category killer" for that sector.

The growth of niche mail order has also been fuelled by the launch of catalogues by high street retailers. The Next Directory, targeted at the young aspirational customer, has been the most successful. However, others such as Selfridge Selections, the mail order operation of the Selfridges department store, have also moved in. Even N Peal, the designer knitwear company, is about to test the waters.

The big players are facing a challenging environment, but they will remain in the game. Mail order has become an increasingly computerised business and there are high barriers to entry. Fulfilment of order requires sophisticated systems which are expensive to replicate. Even if a company is not doing well there will be someone prepared to buy it.

Nevertheless, over the past six years the mail order market has grown by about 31 per cent while sales of the big five have grown by only 26 per cent. They may produce catalogues entitled "Big is Beautiful" but the same cannot be said for their market.

If Greenspan has it right, this rate rise is no watershed

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Interest rates can go up as well as down. Not a terribly sensational statement, you may think. But the experience will be quite new to many young traders in the securities and financial markets on both sides of the Atlantic. Until Friday, American short-term interest rates had not risen for five years, the longest post-war run. In Britain, base rates last went up in October 1989, aside from the brief drama of the 1992 devaluation, and have otherwise been falling for more than three years.

Prior to that, base rates doubled in an unbroken rise lasting 17 months. Do not be surprised, therefore, if markets show a somewhat exaggerated reaction to an increase of just 0.25 per cent to 3.25 per cent in the cost of reserve funds for America's big banks, even though the only surprise in Friday's move was its timing. If they scent a reversal of the trend, that would indeed be an event — and both Wall Street sages and Lloyd Bentsen, the US Treasury Secretary, already envisage further increases this year.

In recent experience, changes of directions in interest rates have marked changes in trend and have been the precursors of movements along the economic cycle. Thus, far from being merely a tiny adjustment to a technical wholesale interest rate, the Federal Reserve Board's move is likely to be viewed as a watershed.

That is precisely why Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, and his colleagues have taken so much time to make their first move upwards. The Fed's more important official discount rate was cut from 3.5 per cent to 3 per cent, where it still remains, in mid-1992. At that time, there were genuine fears that America's recovery might be held back by a shortage of credit capacity in the banking system, whose resources had been scoured by heavy bad debts and the collapse of savings and loan companies. Most of that has now been sorted out. But the special low rates, geared to the state of the financial system rather than business demand, hung on.

Twelve month wholesale money at about 3.5 per cent looked extraordinarily cheap with inflation at almost 3 per cent, in an economy growing at 3 per cent and rising. The rate probably needs adjusting by at least a full point. But even stern central bankers, who do not appear to include Mr Greenspan, are so anxious not to stifle a recovery that they are tempted to put off adjustment until they have to. To maintain the Fed's credibility after the sudden surge in growth in the fourth quarter of 1993, when America's economy officially grew at an annual rate of almost 6 per cent, he had to, even if that proves just a blip, like the surge in the last quarter of 1992.

When central banks are under the direct control of governments, delays in adjusting interest rates from slump conditions to those of a healthy economy are often so long as to be fatal. Little is done to corral credit growth until there is a raging boom. Then the interest rate rise soon becomes a juddering credit squeeze. This has been all too frequent in Britain. Attempts to control a boom when it is in full swing, once memorably proposed as "re-entry into normal growth" have never succeeded in Britain; they achieve only re-entry into recession. This process builds up its own cyclical momentum. As soon as interest rates start rising, the currency and bond markets tend to assume that the game is over. In equity markets, dealers start to have niggling doubts that the boom is sound. So interest rates are not cut as far as they might be in recession, in order to avoid the possibility of having to raise them temporarily, especially if the Government has as big deficit to fund. Were it not for that fear, British base rates would surely have been lower at the depth of the slump

> Attempts to control a boom in full swing have never succeeded in Britain

If Mr Greenspan can break that mind-set in America by adjusting interest rates to an appropriate level, he could, as he claimed on Friday, "sustain and enhance economic expansion". He could also sustain and enhance share prices and even long-term bonds. Indeed, if the markets buy that interpretation of policy, they should worry that the Fed might be doing too little too late rather than acting precipitately. Friday's 2½ per cent fall in share prices on Wall Street is no indicator of this verdict. Share prices had surged 6 per cent in a month, breaking records along the way, so the market was looking over its shoulder for an excuse to correct too rapid growth and consolidate gains before the next advance.

Connections between a tiny rise in American interest rates and share prices on the London Stock Exchange are still more tenuous. There seems little chance of UK interest rates ending this year higher than they began. Recovery is about 18 months behind that of America, and continental economies and interest rates are 18 months behind Britain's. The Government, for better or worse, would not worry if sterling falls well back against the dollar, along with the mark. So the further half point cut in base rates built into market expectations will be decided on domestic needs, rather than anything the Fed has done or might do in the spring. Even if investors spot a watershed, share prices normally continue rising after interest rates turn, and even accelerate as big investors switch out of bonds and rising company earnings and dividends take over as the main attraction — until the squeeze arrives.

In London too, however, the stock market has run ahead too fast and is looking for an excuse to take a breather. Shares have become expensive relative to index-linked government stocks. Investors big and small have been buying because shares are going up, not because they look cheap. There are, for instance, severe doubts that dividends will rise fast enough in a period of low inflation to justify an average 3.4 per cent dividend yield.

Setbacks still need to be rationalised. When market-makers ceremoniously mark leading shares down this morning, they will talk of the threat that the surge of American money abroad might dry up or even be reversed. American money has not made a big impact in London, but it has on the Continent and Far East markets such as Hong Kong. In such times, markets turn together and the correction might be two or three times the initial markdown. But do not blame Mr Greenspan.

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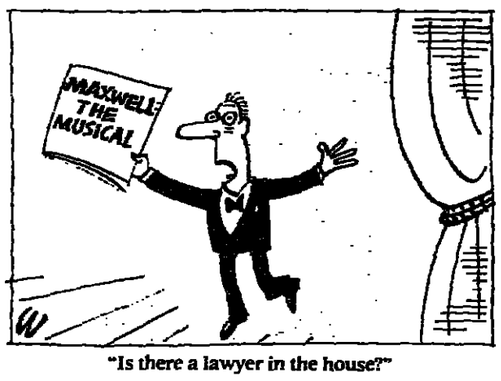
THE TIMES SYDNEY DIARY

Fugitive shown way to go home

MOVE over, Prince Charles. The talk of the Double Bay cocktail set is Christopher Skase, former head of the Qintex television, leisure and property group, now under armed guard in a Spanish hospital jail awaiting an extradition battle after surrendering to police. Declared bankrupt in 1991, after his company collapsed with debts of $1 billion, Skase, still only 45, has spent the past few years holed up in a luxury villa in Majorca with his socialite wife Pixie, claiming to be too ill to fly home to face allegations that he misused more than $10 million of company funds. Spanish police moved in after a Brisbane judge branded him a "conniving fugitive". Back home, the news has triggered a wave of "Skase-stalgia", with watery eyed recollections of how he left his home town of Melbourne in the 1970s to travel Australia in a battered Ford Falcon, and struck upon Queensland as a gold mine for tourism. During the 1980s, he bought television and radio stations, and built the opulent Mirage Hotel resorts, crowning his flamboyant lifestyle with a $1.5 million Christmas party in 1985, where the entire event was swathed in powder blue, his wife's favourite colour. An audacious bid for MGM in 1989 collapsed after Qintex failed to find the cash to complete the deal, and the Skase empire unravelled overnight. Skase claims to suffer from chronic emphysema, saying prolonged travel by air could kill him. The local press has responded by publishing a list of ways of getting him home, ranging from a private hospital jet to a cruise liner. No one has suggested the Ford Falcon . . . yet.



"Is there a lawyer in the house?"

Bird watching

BRITISH expertise is doing its bit to fight smuggling in Melbourne — or "Mexico" as wags in Sydney dub anything south of the state line. Chubb Australia, part of the electronic surveillance to locks group, has won a contract to instal closed-circuit television cameras at the Port of Melbourne as part of a £1 million waterfront security project. The move follows growing concern about the traffic in endangered species — in which lorrikeets and other unfortunate birds are stuffed down poster-tubes and concealed in Coke cans with air holes punched in them. Would-be smugglers have been on their guard after an embarrassing — and potentially quite painful — incident in Adelaide just before Christmas, when a bird breeder tried to smuggle four parrots through Customs hidden in his pants. Customs officials grew suspicious after hearing chirping noises coming from the man's trousers, and were startled to find four baby moustache parrots, worth £8,000.

Bond is back

DOWN but not out, legendary busted entrepreneur Alan Bond still manages to surprise. Bond, who is said to be so frail that he gets lost driving round his home town of Perth, turned up in Farn, North Queensland, a few months back, looking quite fit, and joined a small group of tourists on a day trip to Daintree, in the rain forest north of Cairns. All went well until the party turned up at the luxurious Sheraton Mirage resort in Port Douglas — built by Christopher Skase — where guests included the fabulously wealthy Sultan of Brunei, who had moored his yacht ostentatiously outside. "He's done well," remarked one of Bond's companions. "Ah, but he didn't work for it," scowled the former America's Cup hero.

Trading places

CALLING all Liffe traders: get down here — now! Matthew Seigel, a trader on the floor for BNP, went to Sydney on holiday over the festive season and was bombarded by job offers. Australian broking houses, it seems, hold the Liffe boys in high regard, and Seigel, for one, succumbed. "The Australian market's really picked up," says Seigel, 32, speaking from London, where he is awaiting his working visa. "It's a growth market in futures at the moment. They are looking for London experience." He has signed up with FIMAT, part of the Société Générale group, on an initial two-year contract.

Barred Gates

OOPS! An awkward moment for Bill Gates, founder of the giant Microsoft Computer Corporation, who flew in for a few days last week to check on local operations. Making a presentation to several hundred computer users at the Sydney Opera House, he found he couldn't log on because his computer would not recognise his password. To widespread amusement from the audience — if not on stage — the phrase "Error — access denied" kept flashing across his computer screen. Gates finally penetrated the defences using a back-up code and the show went on. All part of the fun Down Under.

JON ASHWORTH

هكذا من الاصل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (38129)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (54670129)

9.05 Kilroy. Topical studio discussion (s) (7161281) **9.45 Newshound**. Current affairs quiz (s) (5805465)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9830736) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (3393571)

10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (38096939)

12.15 Pebble Mill. Alan Titchmarsh is joined by Su Pollard. Plus an interview with Burt Reynolds (s) (4861228) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (55184736)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (50736) **1.30 Neighbours**. (Ceefax) (s) (49179484) **1.50 The Great British Quiz**. General knowledge competition (s) (49173200)

2.15 Snooker – The Masters. Dougie Donnelly introduces coverage of the match between Peter Ebdon and David Roe (s) (375397)

3.45 Bump. Animation (7677397) **3.50 Model Millie.** Comedy series (s) (9327282) **4.05 Betfink**. Cartoon series (1784718) **4.10 Jackanory**. *Tales from the Norse's Mouth*, the first of five stories about Amber the Viking, written and told by Sandi Toksvig (s) (7520858) **4.25 SuperTed** (r) (2194736) **4.30 Albert the 5th Musketeer** (6077281)

4.55 Newsround (7676129) **5.05 Blue Peter**. (Ceefax) (s) (5665378)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (276303)

6.00 Six O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Moira Stuart (Ceefax) Weather (804)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (484)

7.00 That's Showbusiness. Entertainment quiz introduced by Mike Smith. (Ceefax) (s) (8842)

7.30 Watchdog. Consumer affairs. (Ceefax) (668)

8.00 A Question of Sport. Ian Botham and Bill Beaumont are joined by Frank Bruno, Barry Lane, Mark Bowen and Karen Pickering. Presented by David Coleman. (Ceefax) (s) (4262)

8.30 The Brittas Empire. Comedy series starring Chris Barrie as the manager of a council-owned leisure centre (Ceefax) (s) (3397)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (6465)

Two families merge to make one (9.30pm)

9.30 Panorama: For the Sake of the Children. How family breakdowns can affect children's lives (944567)

10.10 Middlemarch (r). (Ceefax) (s) (214858). **Wales:** Between Ourselves 10.40 Middlemarch 11.40 Face Off 12.15am-12.45 Film 94

11.10 Film 94 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *In the Name of the Father*, *Free Willy* and *The Three Musketeers* (s) (972213)

11.40 Snooker – The Masters. Action from the Alan McManus v Nigel Bond match (s) (953026) **1.30am Weather** (3412514)

2.00-3.50 BBC Select: Voluntary Sector Television (68243) **3.00 RCN Nursing Update** (99866) **3.30 Pathways to Care** (16072866)

BBC2

6.45 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (2421465)

8.15 Westminster Daily (2517216)

8.30 Look, Stranger. The leek growers of Lyron in Durham (r) (5035804) **8.50 A Week to Remember** (b/w). Newsclips from 40 years ago this week (1769200)

9.05 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **1.20** Bump (58392200) **1.25-1.40** Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams (23438856)

2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Numbers Plus: Infant Maths** (r) (11514262)

2.15 Regional Westminster Programmes (r) (854718)

2.45 Northern Arts. Joe Hutton, a Northumbrian shepherd and pipe-player (1147020)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Songs of Praise** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (7577026) **3.40 A Week to Remember** (b/w). As 8.50am (7850620) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (7856804)

4.00 Snooker – The Masters. John Parrott v Neal Foulds (s) (43007)

5.30 The Great British Garden Show. A visit to the St Andrews Autumn Show (r). (Ceefax) (s) (533)

6.00 Def II: The Fresh Prince of Bel Air. American comedy (s) (414262) **6.25 The Ren and Stimpy Show.** Animation (520397) **6.50 Rough Guide to Careers.** A look at the first ten of 50 career options (r) (s) (291705)

7.30 The Bigger Picture. Billy Connolly's series on 500 years of Scottish painting. (Ceefax) (s) (910)

Professor Andrew Wyllie on cell death (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **Horizon: Death Wish – The Untold Story.** (Ceefax) (787842)

8.50 Funky Black Shorts: Home and Away starring Paterson Joseph and Jude Akuwudike. Two black football fans form an uneasy friendship on London's mean streets. (Ceefax) (s) (174587)

9.00 FILM: The River Rat (1984) starring Tommy Lee Jones, Martha Plimpton and Brian Dennehy. Mississippi-set drama about the growing relationship between a 12-year-old and her father whom she had never met before because he was serving a sentence for a crime he did not commit. Directed by Tom Rickman. (Ceefax) (5736)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (602002)

11.15 CHOICE **The Bestseller Brief** (s) (587281)

11.55 Weather (308571)

12.00 Working with Systems. Ideas to prevent the feeling of being trapped by problems at work and at home (8701779). Ends at **1.20am**

2.00-4.00 Night School: Search Out Science (61779)

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CHOICE

Horizon: Death Wish – The Untold Story
BBC2, 8.00pm

Cell death is, curiously enough, the subject of a good news documentary. Two Scottish pathologists, Professor Andrew Wyllie and the late Sir Alastair Currie, have been working on their theory for 20 years. They believe that cells commit suicide when they are damaged. Cancer occurs when they refuse to die and go on growing. Now the race is on to find a way of making cancer cells self-destruct. After years of obscurity, Wyllie is suddenly hugely popular in medical circles and the programme contrasts his shyness with the flamboyance of characters such as Professor Martin Raff of University College London. An enthusiastic "cell death" convert, Raff contends that Wyllie's research was crucial but that he "failed to catch the imagination of other scientists".

Women make a stand on the links (C4, 9.00pm)

Cutting Edge: The Club
Channel 4, 9.00pm

What begins as a sedate profile of a Middlesex golf club becomes a wicked exposé of personal rivalries in this entertaining documentary. Although, as Northwood member, Preston Lockwood, puts it, the typical club golfer is "a man whose ancestors have always voted Conservative and he isn't going to change", the diehards are having to adapt to a new clientele. The film highlights the demands of female members who want to be able to vote at the AGM and follows the case of a man accused by the chairman of being so confrontational that his behaviour is "not fitting of a gentleman". With the nastiness threatening to get out of hand, Lockwood stands on the sidelines finding it all very amusing. "A lot of us come hoping for some excitement," he says at the volatile AGM.

The Bestseller Brief
BBC2, 11.15pm

In a juicy programme full of author interviews, Mark Lawson considers the rise of the legal thriller in the United States. Although the courtroom trial has always lent itself to fiction, the idea of lawyers writing novels is fairly new. As Lawson ungenerously points out, the writers pick up two salaries this way, but why are their books so popular? Paradoxically, it could be because the American public has decided that lawyers are fascinatingly unpleasant. According to surveys, they are seen as clever but greedy and lacking in ethics. The righteous legal hero of *To Kill A Mocking Bird* is no longer fashionable. Instead, books such as John Grisham's *The Firm*, playing on our paranoia about corporate corruption, have become bestsellers.

Sabotage
Channel 4, 9.00am

This new daily quiz show claims to be a first for British television. Its crucial difference is that the contestants are all women. Do not for a minute imagine however that there is anything gentle about the programme. Presenter Maria McErlane has described it as a "chiz", a cross between a quiz and a chatshow. In reality it is more like ritual humiliation. As the women attempt to outwit and sabotage each other through a series of "special interest" question rounds, McErlane delights in telling them how "rubbish" they are and making them put their hands on their heads, supposedly as part of the game. **Stephanie Billen**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (3484571)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw. Celebrity game show (s) (8554668) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (3379991)

10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical discussion series chaired by John Stapleton (s) (2213991)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine (38080378) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8963991)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (3170216)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (s) (3062007) **1.25 Home and Away**. (Teletext) (97788736)

1.55 Capital Woman. Includes Anneka Rice discovering the delights of a Turkish bath (s) (54095638) **2.25 A Country Practice** Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (43816533) **2.50 The Young Doctors**. Australian hospital drama (3306668)

3.20 ITN News headlines (8161571) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8160842)

3.30 Tots TV (s) (9341842) **3.40 Rainbow** (7950674) **3.50 Talespin** (r) (s) (1404562) **4.20 Harry's Mad** (s) (2464945) **4.50 Art Attack** (s) (9342378)

5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (5755945)

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (524587)

6.00 London Tonight (Teletext) (38465)

7.00 Wish You Were Here ..? Reports from Australia's Kakadu National Park, Weston-super-Mare and Stockholm. (Teletext) (s) (3910)

Johnny Briggs and Liz Dawn (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Vera Duckworth starts work for Mike Baldwin (Teletext) (s) (736)

8.00 Law and Disorder Courtroom comedy series starring Penelope Keith (Teletext) (2858)

8.30 World In Action: Animal Traffic. A documentary about the work of the RSPCA's undercover surveillance unit in exposing the dire conditions in which some animals are transported from Britain to the Continent (s) (8465)

9.00 Under the Hammer. Drama series about a London-based auction house. With Richard Wilson and Jan Francis. (Teletext) (s) (1216)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (13668) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (567842)

10.40 Dave Allen. More comic observations of life (r) (s) (825262)

11.10 Magnum. Hawaii-based private detective series starring Tom Selleck (964281)

12.00 The Little Picture Show. Film and video review, introduced by Mariella Frostrup (66040)

1.00am Shannon's Deal. American crime drama series (1360972)

1.50 Beyond Reality. Adventures of two investigative parapsychologists (1003866)

2.20 Sport AM with Bob Symonds (1610866)

3.20 FILM: The Water of Life (1988). A Czechoslovakian/ German film based on a Brothers Grimm fairy tale. With English dialogue, directed by Ivan Balada (861048)

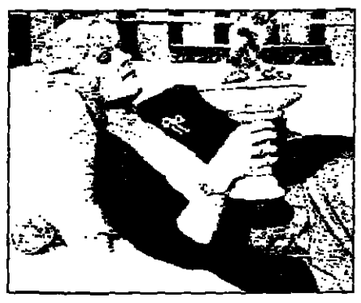
5.00 Hollywood Report (r) (s) (82088)

5.30 ITN Morning News (47866). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors Animated adventures (r) (6353804)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (46587)



Maria McErlane presents a "chiz" (9.00am)

9.00 CHOICE **Sabotage** (s) (96945)

9.30 Schools: Geography Start Here! **9.46** Talk, Write and Read **10.02** Science Start Here! **10.18** World Studies: Tourism **10.40** The English Programme: Writing Non-Fiction **11.07** Time for Maths **11.18** Mathsbook **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat **11.45** Junior Technology: Designing and Making

12.00 Right To Reply. A repeat of Saturday's programme. (Teletext) (s) (90151)

12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning series. The guest is Mel Gibson (76842) **1.30 Bobobobs.** Environmental adventures in outer space (r) (23587)

2.00 Homefront. Episode five of the 24-part serial from America about three Second World War veterans trying to adjust to civilian life (s) (7798026)

2.55 Wheeling Free. The story of Jeff, an Australian disabled rights activist, on an ambitious journey through Central America, that helped him understand how Latin America deals with disability and to learn more about himself (r) (3421113)

3.55 Nature Perfected: Garlands of Repose. A repeat of Friday's programme that looked at the Christian and Muslim traditions which influenced European gardens. (Teletext) (6837668)

4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (649)

5.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's topical chat and music show hosted by Gay Byrne (s) (9133)

6.00 The Wonder Years. American comedy series starring Fred Savage (r). (Teletext) (842)

6.30 Roseanne. Wisecracking domestic comedy from Roseanne Arnold and John Goodman (r) (Teletext) (s) (194)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (614026)

7.50 Comment. (Teletext) (870484)

8.00 Brookside. Topical soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (4200)

8.30 Desmond's. Comedy series set in a Peckham, south London, barber's (r). (Teletext) (s) (6007)

9.00 CHOICE **Cutting Edge: The Club.** (Teletext) (s) (9858)

10.00 Homicide – Life on the Street. Gritty American police drama (Teletext) (s) (2945)

11.00 Soil of Avellaneda. A documentary about a group of forensic anthropologists painstakingly working in a Buenos Aires suburban cemetery to identify the remains of 350 people exhumed from a common grave (424151)

12.40am Let The Blood Run Free. Black medical comedy from Australia (r) (s) (4565330)

1.10 When Reason Sleeps. A psychological mystery film inspired by a series of Goya etchings. Starring Susan Bradley, Brian McGrath, Dearbhla Molloy and Alison McKenna (r) (2179088)

2.10 Town and Country featuring Rodney Crowell and the Dixie Pearls (r) (s) (1611595). Ends at **3.10**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Kevin Greening (FM only) **7.00** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Emma Freud **2.00pm** Mark Goodier **4.00** Nicky Campbell **7.00** Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Lee and Herring's Fist of Fun (r) **9.30** Room 101: Frank Skinner talks to Nick Hancock (r) **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Claire Sturgess (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Alan Dell with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Jazz Score **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Notes **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Schools English 9-11: **9.20** Instant History. **9.30** The Song Tree. Music Course 1. **9.45** Let's Move!. **10.05** History 9-11: Invaders and Settlers **10.25** Johnnie Walker **12.30pm** Body Talk **1.10** The Crunch **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-In **6.30** Kiss Me Quick **7.15** The Devil in the Dustbin (1/5) **7.30** Champion Sport **9.30** X Minus One **10.10** Fabulous! **12.00-12.10am** News, Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin: Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** World News **6.15** The Learning World **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Way Out West **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Unconsidered Trifles **9.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** This Is Your Sport? **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin News in German **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** It's a Funny Old World **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf. To the Lighthouse **2.45** The Dance Selection **3.00** World News **3.15** Opera of the Week **4.00** World News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell. News in German **5.00** World News **5.05** World Business Report Special **5.15** BBC English **8.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell: News in German **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** World News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** On Screen **11.30** Multitrack 1 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Maestro **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** It's a Funny Old World **3.00** World News **3.10** Brash News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** John Peel **4.00** World News **4.15** Health Matters

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Brahms (Double Concerto) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** Musical Landscapes: Music Inspired by London **8.00** Evening Concert: Dohnányi (Suite, Op 19); Bartók (Piano Concerto No 3); Kodály (Suite, Hary Janos) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Gary King **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Paul Coyte

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (3379991) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News and Weather (8963991) **1.55** A Country Practice (49174939) **2.20-2.50** Yan Can Cook (43831842) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (8160842) **5.10-5.40** Swot or Wot? (5755945) **6.00** Home and Away (514216) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather and Anglia News (848736) **10.30** Anglia News and Weather (567842) **10.40** Love Call (452736) **11.40** Street Legal (953200) **12.35am** Sword of Honour (7886427) **1.30** Sport AM (65205) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1989 (77514) **3.30** The Beat (7098750) **4.20** Jobfinder (6874663) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (82088)

CENTRAL
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (3379991) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (8963991) **1.55** Shortland Street (49174939) **2.20** Cooking at the Academy (43831842) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (3306668) **3.25-3.30** Central News (8160842) **5.10-5.40** Swot or Wot? (5755945) **6.00** Home and Away (514216) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (848736) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (567842) **11.10** World Championship Boxing (955533) **12.05am** Wanted Dead or Alive (8518576) **12.40-2.20** Triumphs of a Man Called Horse (257778) **3.15** Hollywood Report (97040) **3.45** Profile (28356882) **3.55** Night Shift (28352866) **4.05** Jobfinder (2162392) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (3067409)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49174939) **2.20-2.50** Yan Can Cook (43831842) **3.25-3.30** HTV West News (8160842) **6.00** HTV News (200) **6.30-7.00** Hannah USA (552) **10.30-10.40** HTV West News and Weather (567842) **11.10** Roadrunner (926571) **11.40** Spotlight (240303) **12.10am** Grapevine (1432040) **12.35** Sword of Honour (7886427) **1.30** Sport AM (65205) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1989 (77514) **3.30** The Beat (7098750) **4.20** Jobfinder (6874663) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (82088)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00-6.30 Wales at Six (200) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (567842) **11.10** Voyage around Africa (222842) **11.55-12.10pm** Rock Sport (306656)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49174939) **2.20** Houseparty (43831842) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (3306668) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (200) **6.30-7.00** Country Ways (552) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (567842) **11.10** Business North and South (926571) **11.40** Sledge Hammer (438026) **12.05am-1.00** The Little Picture Show (5469601) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (82088)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49174939) **2.20-2.45** Wish You Were Here ..? (43817262) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (871939) **6.30-7.00** Put It in Writing (552) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (955533) **12.05am** Sail the World (6659021) **12.35** The Good Life (623663) **2.30** The New Music (77514) **3.30** ITV Chart Show (1248392) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (3444779)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 Westcountry Latest (8963991) **1.55** The Young Doctors (54095638) **2.25-2.55** Gardening Time (43830113) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (8160842) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (38465) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry Latest (567842) **11.10** The Powers That Be (288552) **11.35** The Trials of Rosie O'Neill (428277) **12.30am** My Story (5306040) **12.35** Sword of Honour (7886427) **1.30** Sport AM (65205) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1989 (77514) **3.30** The Beat (7098750) **4.20** Jobfinder (6874663) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (82088)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49174939) **2.20-2.45** Wish You Were Here..? (43817262) **5.55** Calendar (871939) **6.30-7.00** Enterprise 94 (552) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (955533) **12.05am** Sail the World (6659021) **12.35** Good Life (623663) **2.30** New Music (77514) **3.30** Chart Show (1248392) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (46587) **9.00** Sabotage (96945) **9.30** Ysgolion/schools (884668) **12.00pm** Right To Reply (90151) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (24216) **1.00** Roseanne Don't Make Me Over (49674) **1.30** Blossom 38 Special (23587) **2.00** Hometown Patriots (7798026) **2.55** The Oprah Winfrey Show Juvenile Criminals (3233007) **3.45** Laurel And Hardy (9328981) **4.00** Sioa 23 (465) **4.00** Ty Chwith. (8936397) **4.20** Wil Wal. (7439552) **4.35** Llun (6089262) **5.00** Batman The Ring Of Wax (4216) **5.30** Countdown (129) **6.00** Newyddion & News (512378) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (414387) **6.25** Heno (846378) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (1552) **7.30** Delweddau I. (378) **8.00** Mr Ladron Mr Ladron Y Caribi (4200) **8.30** Newyddion/news (6007) **9.00** Sgono (9858) **10.00** Brookside (40610) **10.30** Cheers I'll Gladly Pay You Tuesday (93858) **11.00** Homicide - Life On The Street: Bop Gun (602939) **11.55** Secret History. The Soviet Wives Affair (688113)

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air: Mozart (Overture, The Marriage of Figaro); Farina (Capriccio stravagante); Mendelssohn (Song without Words in E flat, Book 6 No 31: Verleih' uns Frieden); Strauss (Romanze in F); Beethoven (Violin Sonata in E flat, Op 12)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Haydn in England. Including Arianna a Naxos; Symphony No 96 in D, Miracle
10.00 Musical Encounters: Including contributions from Evelyn Glennie. Haydn (Arietta con variazioni in A, H X VII 2); Messiaen (Poèmes pour mi); Mozart (Sinfonia Concertante in E flat, K364)
12.00 Youth for Hell: Faust the Lover. First of two programmes on opera's treatment of the legend
1.00pm News 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert from St John's, Smith Square. Ronald Brautigam, piano, plays Mozart (Rondo in A minor, K511); Beethoven (Variations and Fugue in E flat, Op 35, Eroica)
2.05 A Dutch Retrospect: Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra performs Stravinsky (Scherzo fantastique); Scriabin (Piano Concerto in F sharp minor: Naum Grubert); Rimsky-Korsakov (Shéhérazade)
3.45 Music for Organ: David Sanger performs in the Reid Hall, Edinburgh. Weckman (Fantasia in D minor); Tunder (In dich hab ich gehofet. Herr); C.P.E. Bach (Fantasia and Fugue in C minor). Buxtehude (Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern). Bach (Fantasia and Fugue in G minor, BWV 542)
4.30 A Different Rhythm: Alex Pascall recalls the 1980s
5.00 The Music Machine: See Choice
5.15 In Tune: Andrew Green talks to conductor James Judd. Mozart (Overture, Die Zauberflöte); Schubert (Polonaise in B flat, D580); Bartók (Sonatina); Hahn (L'Enamourée)
7.30 EBU Concert, live from the Radio House Concert Hall, Copenhagen. Danish RSO under Leif Segerstam, with Per Salo, piano, performs Per Norgard (Spaces of Time); Berg (Lyric Suite: Kontra Quartet). **8.25** Poul Ruders and Jorgen Jensen on Nielsen's Fourth Symphony. **8.45** Nielsen (Symphony No 4) (Inextinguishable)
9.30 Stories by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.
9.50 Youth for Hell: Smaller Images Songs on texts from Goethe's Faust
10.45 Mixing It: Including a session with improvising quartet Stevie Wishart, Vivian Ellis, Jan Denley and Adrian York
11.30 Music Restored: The Moscow Orthodox Church Male Choir under Analoly Grindenko explores the Russian chant **12.30am News**
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)
2.30-3.10 Night School Extra

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News, **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4 **8.40** Whodunit? Simon Brett investigates the perfect fictional murder **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week: Conversation with Melvyn Bragg, Suzanne Moore, Eddie Izzard, Paul Gilroy, Dr Roland Littlewood and Reggie Nadelson
10.00 Worldly Wise (FM only): An etymological panel game
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only) from the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft
10.15 The Bible (LW only): John. Tony Britton reads the first of ten parts (r)
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: The Bridges of Madison County, by Robert James Waller (1/4) Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Money Box Live: 071-580 4444 from 10am
12.00 News; You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm Counterpoint: Ned Sherrin hosts the music quiz **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Seven Years' Solitary. Maureen O'Brien stars in a dramatisation by Jonathan Smith of Dr Edith Bone's autobiography. (r)
3.00 The Train Now Showing: Trains in the movies, including Brief Encounter. (r)
3.30 In Excess: Doing nothing has gone out of fashion, argues Armando Iannucci (r)
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Natalie Wheen meets Irek Mukhamedov as he achieves his ambition to interpret the role of Othello in dance
4.45 Short Story: The Lid, by Philip Harries. Read by Russell Dixon
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Just a Minute: Chairman Nicholas Parsons is joined by Peter Jones, Paul Merton, Wendy Richard and Lee Simpson (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme: Derek Cooper looks at the rituals of dining (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: The Ratcatcher of Hamelin See Choice
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Peerless Flats, written and read by Esther Freud (6/8)
11.00 This Island Now: Ray Gosling looks at the Caravan Club and its national rally (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

The Ratcatcher of Hamelin. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

John Peacock's play is about the dangerous consequences of not keeping to a bargain. It makes a highly imaginative leap from the 13th-century pied piper, whose revenge famously robbed a town of all its children, to one 20th-century teenager (James Beattie) who is robbed of his future when his parents (James Aubrey, Sally Dexter) split up. Peacock interlocks this theme with another that is more complex but less convincingly explored — the necessity for some nations, specifically Germany, to substitute an acceptable myth for an unpalatable truth.

The Music Machine: Byte the Music. *Radio 3, 5.00pm.*

Thus far at any rate, human beings have not been made totally redundant by the digital computer technology that has revolutionised music-making. Mike Edwards begins his series by talking to men whose fingers continue to programme the computers. Although he plays a snatch of an all-computerised Beethoven "Eroica", relief is at hand in the sound of a Beethoven Violin Concerto performance in which the soloist is a living, breathing, being. **Peter Davalle**

THE CLASSIC OPERA GUIDE.
TUESDAY 7PM.
CLASSIC FM 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat (73120026) **6.40** Lamb Chops (5235991) **9.10** Cartoons (4666113) **9.30** Card Sharks (68820) **9.55** Concentration (3053638) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (6161552) **10.30** Love at First Sight (38991) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (19246) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (52571) **12.30pm** E Street (79736) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (67891) **2.00** Shogun (77939) **3.00** Another World (7392197) **3.50** DJ Kat (5954026) **5.00** Star Trek. The Next Generation (5533) **6.00** Games World (6736) **6.30** E Street (5216) **7.00** M*A*S*H (6262) **7.30** Full House (1200) **8.00** Tradewinds: Final part of the mini-series (68084) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (25939) **11.00** The Untouchables (80991) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (13972) **1.00am** Night Court (49917) **1.30-2.00** In Living Color (22779)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise Europe (72587) **9.30** 60 Minutes (97910) **10.30** Daytime (36533) **11.30** Japan Business (93842) **12.30pm** News and Business (67291) **1.30** CBS News (68910) **2.30** Parliament Live (54007) **4.30** News and Business (80552) **7.30** Special Report (9842) **9.30** Talkback (80842) **11.30** CBS News (63736) **12.30am** ABC News (64243) **1.30** Special Report (10779) **2.30** Travel Destinations (66595) **3.30** Talkback (61040) **4.30** News Special (31750) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (97066)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (8701858)
10.00 A Separate Peace (1972). New England boarding-school boys await the outbreak of war (73552)
12.00 The Wackiest Ship in the Army (1960) Jack Lemmon skippers a decrepit gunship in the Pacific (74842)
2.00pm Ghost Chase (1988): A young film buff teams up with butler's ghost (18561)
4.00 Four Eyes (1991) Comic western with Judge Reinhold as an optometrist in Tombstone (1115)
6.00 Revenge of the Nerds III (1992) Warring nerds and jocks are reunited at college (64531484)
7.40 UK Top Ten (898755)
8.00 The Power of One (1992) An English boy in South Africa uses the boxing ring to fight racism (51862620)
10.10 Year of the Gun (1991) Reporter investigates Red Brigade terrorism. With Andrew McCarthy (366281)
12.00 Beneath the Valley of the Ultra Vixens (1979). Soft-core comedy directed by Russ Meyer. With Anne Marie (826798)
1.40am Better Off Dead (1992): A lawyer defends the woman she helped to sentence to death (5916885)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00am 8½ (1963). Federico Fellini's masterpiece about a director struggling to complete a movie (63151991)
8.20 Reds (1981) An American journalist (Warren Beatty) joins the Russian revolution (95562804) Ends at **11.40**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Two Rode Together (1961) James Stewart against Comanche Indians (22754)
8.00 The Dragon That Almost Wasn't (1983): Animated fun from Holland (59533)
10.00 Strange Lady in Town (1955) Western with Greer Garson and Dana Andrews (71194)
12.00 Witness to Murder (1974) Crime thriller, with Barbara Stanwyck and George Sanders (73484)
2.00pm Lightning Strikes Twice (1951, b/w). Murder mystery with Richard Todd and Ruth Roman (18543)
4.00 The Dragon That Almost Wasn't (as 8am) (8007)
6.00 LA Story (1991 Steve Martin's affectionate tribute to Los Angeles (27397)
8.00 Not Without My Daughter (1990): American wife flees Iranian husband (22842)
10.00 Ricochet (1991): Killer stalks police officer who put him behind bars (457587)
11.45 Necessary Roughness (1990) Sorties form a football team. With Scott Bakula and Robert Loggia (586755)
1.35am Girlfriend from Hell (1990) Space traveller Dana Ashbrook versus the devil in sci-fi thriller (473156)
3.15 Zoot Suit (1981) Musical about murderous Chicanos in the 1940s (345596)

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Prime Bodies (48939) **7.30** American Sports (97084) **8.30** World Sports (50200) **9.00** Prime Bodies (41552) **9.30** Big League (53755) **11.00** Basketball (31303) **1.00pm** FA Premiership Football (95303) **3.00** US PGA Golf (84587) **5.00** Snowboarding (1668) **5.30** Trucks and Tractors (5281) **6.00** Soccer News (314303) **6.15** WWF Superstars (920839) **7.00** Challenger's Trophy (42674) **8.00** Heineken Classic Golf (59910) **10.00** Soccer News (815858) **10.15** Ringside (6578581) **11.15-1.45am** Basketball (22290945)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (45842) **8.00** Golf: Johnnie Walker Classic (84939) **9.00** Alpine Skiing (13755) **11.00** Speedskating (21252) **12.00** Rallying Highlights (65674) **1.00pm** Tennis: Pan-Pacific Open (17571) **3.00** Athletics (35842) **4.00** Eurofun (7723) **4.30** Tennis: ATP Tour (49378) **5.30** Eurosport (18421) **7.00** Car Racing on Ice (64842) **8.00** Stock Cars (40362) **9.00** Thai Boxing (60026) **10.00** Eurogoals (63113) **11.00** Eurogolf (42755) **12.00-12.30am** News (26311)

MAIL ORDER 38
DIRECT ROUTE TO CATALOGUE OF SUCCESS

BUSINESS

MARKET JITTERS 38
GRAHAM SEARJEANT SAYS SHAKE-OUT WOULD BE HEALTHY

MONDAY FEBRUARY 7 1994

BUSINESS EDITOR ROBERT BALLANTYNE

Cahill to quit BAe after power clash

■ Britain's planemaker is backing plans to set up a large-scale leasing operation at Airbus Industrie intended to help it increase sales and overtake Boeing

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, NEIL BENNETT AND ROSS TIEMAN

BRITISH Aerospace is to lose its third chairman in just 31 months after an internecine boardroom clash between the group's two top executives.

The impending departure of John Cahill, the group's executive chairman, is likely to be confirmed next week, after details of a hefty compensation package have been agreed. He will leave at the company's annual shareholder meeting in April, although his contract runs until 1997.

The departure comes when BAe is considering two vital further planks to its restructuring: raising its commitment to the Airbus airliner consortium and reopening talks to merge its defence interests with those of GEC.

Mr Cahill's hands-on management style has, it is understood, brought him into conflict with Dick Evans, BAe's pugnacious chief executive, one of the few top directors to survive the group's near-financial collapse in 1991. The renewed turmoil is likely to cause consternation in the City, which has been warming to Mr Cahill's efforts to restructure the group, culminating in the sale of Rover. Mr Cahill joined in April 1992 after Sir Roland Smith had been ousted in September 1991, and Sir Graham Day stepped in as chairman in a caretaker role.

A former chief executive of BTR, the manufacturing group, he was welcomed by the City for his reputation for cost-cutting and raising profit margins, which has continued at BAe. But he is not a dealmaker, unlike his chief executive. Mr Evans and Richard Lapthorne, the finance director, are understood to have opposed Mr Cahill's operating effectively as chief executive.

A BAe spokesman said: "The board has worked together very effectively during the last year to bring about a wide and successful restructuring of BAe. Speculation about any split in the boardroom is nonsense." The company will say there is now less need for change at BAe and that the board believes it would be better to have a non-executive chairman.

Having rationalised most of its non-Airbus civil aircraft business, BAe is now keen to play a bigger role in pushing forward the ambitions of the pan-European airliner consortium. It is in talks with its partners in Airbus Industrie to form a new finance subsidiary, which is needed to fund Airbus's growing order book and help it in its aim of overtaking Boeing as the world's biggest planemaker. Last week, an Airbus A330 was powered for the first time by Rolls-Royce Trent 700 engines, making it the first Airbus to be available with all-British power plants.

By the end of the decade, this finance company is expected to control assets worth tens of billions of dollars as Airbus's sales rise. BAe would inject part of the initial share capital to ensure its financial stability. Airbus Finance will then raise borrowings through a bank syndicate and later plans to issue dollar-denominated bonds on the American financial markets. The consortium is said to have recruited J P Morgan, the American investment bank, as its adviser in the company's creation.

Until now, most Airbuses have been bought outright by national airlines. But many smaller airlines want to use Airbus aircraft, while not having the financial resources to buy them. In future, they will be able to lease the aircraft from Airbus Finance.

Cahill: cost-cutter

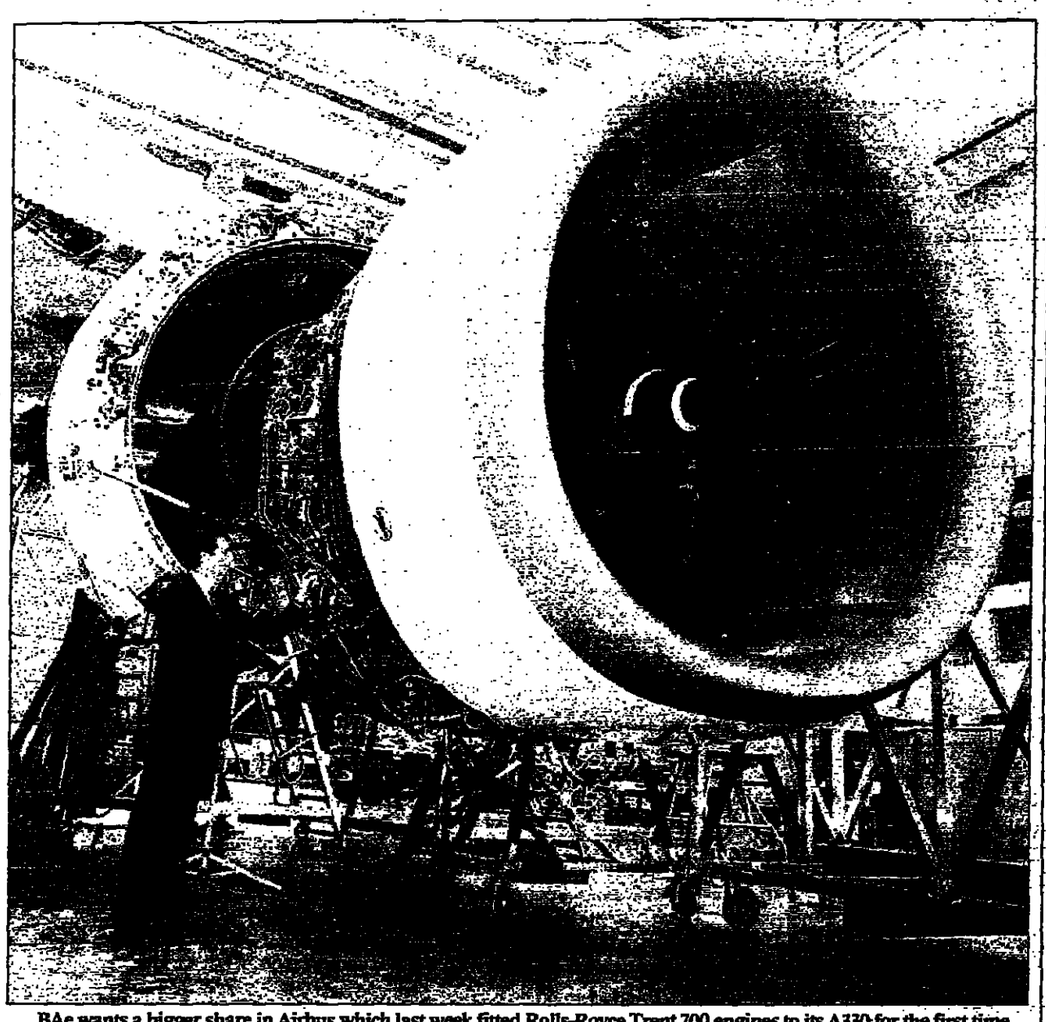
The Rover sale gives BAe the stability to help in the creation of Airbus Finance. Rover's peak annual debts were almost £1.6 billion, so the £800 million sale gives BAe an additional £2.4 billion in financial resources.

Airbus Industrie is owned by Aérospatiale of France (37.9 per cent), Dasa of Germany, (37.9 per cent), BAe (20 per cent) and Casa of Spain (4.2 per cent). The partners receive work in individual manufacturing areas reflecting the size of their equity holding.

BAe and Dasa are expected to increase pressure to convert Airbus Industrie from a *groupement d'intérêt economique* to a fully-fledged company. They believe this would yield commercial rigour and enable work to be allocated to the most efficient bidder, within or outside the consortium. Aérospatiale has resisted, fearing BAe's desire to take a bigger share.

As part of its fundamental rethink, BAe now also seems much keener to merge its main defence businesses, the biggest part of the group, with those of GEC, which include electronic systems and warships. Talks were held last summer, at the behest of Lord Weinstock, GEC's managing director, but were shelved by BAe following reports in *The Sunday Times* and ahead of refinancing negotiations with BAe's banks.

☐ BMW's acquisition of Rover thwarted a management buyout plan, Garel Rhys, a motor industry analyst, has revealed. He said he was contacted by two Rover managers shortly before the takeover was announced, claiming that the company had been sold above their heads. Meanwhile, Nobuhiko Kawamoto, president of Honda, warned on the BBC's *Money Pregramme* that the company will pull out of Rover if it loses its British status.



BAe wants a bigger share in Airbus which last week fitted Rolls-Royce Trent 700 engines to its A330 for the first time

Warning to banks on data protection

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE data protection registrar has issued a strong warning to Britain's banks to keep customer details confidential unless permission has been freely given to pass them on.

Eric Howe, the registrar, has told the banks and finance houses that he wants to see improved standards for the confidentiality of personal data, or legal enforcement action will be taken under the Data Protection Act. He sent his warning to the Bank of England, the British Banking Association and the Finance and Leasing Organisation at the end of last month.

He wants all customers to be given notice before information about poor loan repayment history is passed on to credit reference agencies, and for banks and finance houses to obtain the free consent of their customers before passing on details about people who repay loans promptly.

The timing of his paper is awkward for the banks, as this week sees the publication of the revised code of banking practice. Banks have been seeking greater powers to pass on customer information to credit reference agencies. The existing code, introduced in March 1992, does not cover the issue. However, it is common practice for banks to pass on "black data" about their customers to credit reference agencies. They do so if a customer is three months in arrears and has received a warning from the bank that if no measures are taken within a further 28 days, details of the account will be passed on.

Banks and finance houses have also passed on "white data" (records of a good borrowing history) to credit agencies. Mr Howe has told them that free consent of customers must be given before "white data" is passed on. He said the disclosure of "white data" must not be made a condition of an agreement. He has accepted that it may be a condition of an agreement that "black data" be given to credit reference agencies.

He wants banks and finance houses to agree that customers be informed whenever a credit reference check is made. John Lumidey, assistant registrar, said the registrar wanted to negotiate change with banks and finance houses, but if that fails, he will resort to the Data Protection Tribunal or the courts.

BT to axe peak rate charge for phone calls

BY OUR CITY STAFF

BT will announce tomorrow it is to get rid of its peak rate for telephone calls, cutting charges by £340 million.

Under an agreement with Oftel, the telecommunications regulator, BT has to cut its charges by inflation minus 7.5 per cent, or £500 million, by the end of July. Its lower weekend rates have already cut £160 million from charges. The peak rate cuts, likely to come in next month, will go most of the way to finding the remainder.

Instead of having three price bands, with the most expensive time to make a call being between 9 am and 1 pm, there will be only two — one from 8am to 6pm, and the off-peak night rate.

Business customers, who have less choice about when they use the phone, will get the most benefit from the reduced charges. The move will cut 6 per cent from business phone bills.

It will also increase pressure on Mercury, BT's rival, to cut its prices. Mercury has won a large slice of the business phone market.

However, BT hopes the cut in charges will also encourage more domestic customers to use the phone during the day. The cut is expected to knock about 3 per cent from household bills: that is £1.29 a quarter.

BT said: "We have a commitment to cut our prices by £500 million by 31 July, and that is a commitment we will meet."

London shares forecast to tumble after US rate rise

BY OUR CITY STAFF

CITY analysts expect share prices on the London Stock Exchange to fall by up to 4¼ per cent as investors worldwide react to the US Federal Reserve Board's decision, late on Friday, to raise interest rates by a quarter of a point.

Prices are certain to be marked down after Friday's mini-crash on Wall Street, which occurred mainly after London markets had closed. Market strategists forecast that London prices will initially fall sharply, but views differ on how far. Forecasts vary between 60 and 150 points off the FT-SE 100 index, which closed at 3,475.4, down 16.1 points, on Friday.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell by 96.24 points, or 2.4 per cent, on Friday after the Federal Reserve tightened US monetary policy for the first time in five years. It was Wall Street's largest one-day fall in two years.

However, because of the time difference between Wall Street and London, the Dow's slump had only a limited impact on London share prices before Friday's close.

The performance of stock markets in the Far East early this morning, and of Hong Kong in particular, hold the key to how London performs, Edmond Warner, head of strategy at Kleinwort Benson Securities, said. He pointed out that several Hong Kong companies were included in the FT-SE 100 index: if Hong Kong shares slumped, their falls would drag down the London index.

The London stock market, which reached a 13-month high of 3,520.3 last Wednesday, and which has risen by almost 27 per cent since January 1993, has been especially buoyed of late by Hong Kong's strong performance.

The Hang Seng index struck a 13-month high on January 4 and even at Friday's closing level of 12,157.57 was still 123.6 per cent higher than a year earlier. A market correction has long been signalled.

Mr Warner believes US rates will continue to rise through 1994, now the Fed had clearly determined a change of direction.

Other analysts said London investors had had the weekend to absorb Friday's Wall Street fall. That could mean any shake-out today is less violent than it might have been had the Wall Street tumble occurred mid-week.

LWT rejects Granada advances

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

LONDON Weekend Television, facing a £650 million takeover bid from Granada, has rebuffed informal approaches over the weekend to determine if common ground could be agreed, and will urge shareholders today to stay on board.

Sir Christopher Bland, LWT chairman, said yesterday the best was yet to come and that there had been a strong start to this year. In a new circular sent to its shareholders, LWT says Granada's bid remains inadequate.

On the last day allowed under the takeover code for it to issue fresh financial information, LWT says in the circular that January advertising revenue has risen by 10 per cent to £14.8 million compared with the same month a year ago, and that the first-quarter's advertising revenue is likely to be at least £1.5 million ahead of budget.

January's average share of viewing in London rose to 40 per cent. Studio bookings are higher and LWT Productions has continued to trade well, it added. There was also a positive trend at GMTV.

"LWT has made an impressive start to the year and we believe that the group's prospect remain excellent," Sir Christopher said. Granada's reaction to LWT's weekend circular was "so what?. It has been a good January for all of us".

LWT's 1993 profit was an estimated £43.8 million, up 43 per cent on 1992, and analysts are looking for a further profits increase to between £50 million and £54 million this year.

Granada has an 18.1 per cent stake in LWT and has received acceptances of 2.6 per cent for its current offer. It has one week to decide whether to raise its bid, which analysts believe it must if it hopes to win.

Loans to consumers show strong rise

CONSUMERS sharply increased borrowing in December, but there was a warning that they might merely be using more credit rather than spending more, and could lose confidence when huge tax increases hit pockets from April (Janet Bush writes).

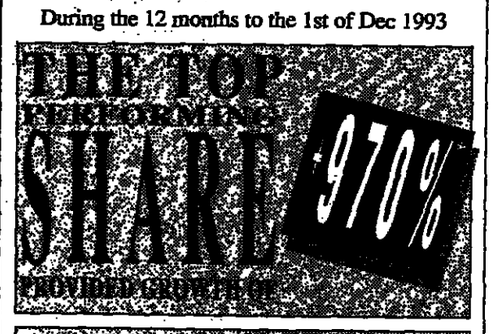
The Finance and Leasing Association said consumer credit in December was 7 per cent up on November and 36 per cent higher than in December 1992. Spending on store cards, at £508 million, was up 24 per cent from a year earlier; personal loans, at £161 million, were 40 per cent higher — but 21 per cent down on November.

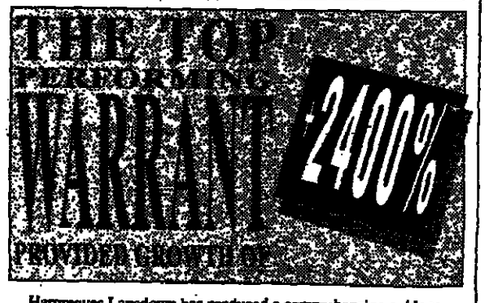
Tony Mallin, the association's chairman, noted that consumer borrowing had increased steadily in 1993 as confidence had increased, mortgage costs had fallen and fear of unemployment had receded. He said, however: "It appears that credit is being seen primarily as a way of spreading cost, not taking on extra commitments."

Business finance increased by 13 per cent in December, compared with a year earlier. Industrial hire purchase accounted for most of the rise.

THE EXCITEMENT OF WARRANTS

During the 12 months to the 1st of Dec 1993





Hargreaves Lansdown has produced a comprehensive guide to Warrant investments which usually sells for £1.99. If you would like a copy for just £1.00 together with details of future Warrant related products then please return the coupon below.

*Growth rates mid to mid excluding reinvestment income. Source Data Stream.

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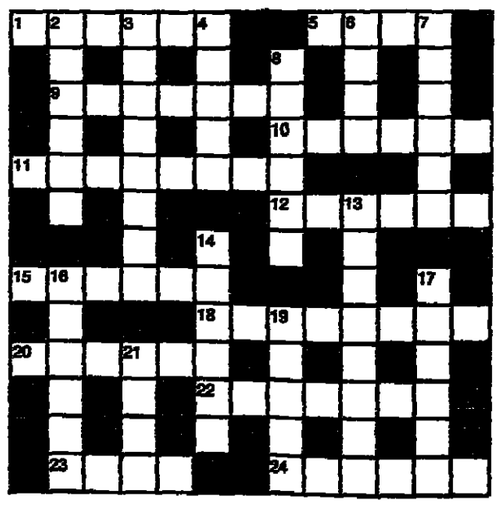
TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 82



ACROSS
1 Old car (6)
5 Pulp (4)
9 Yellowish gum resin (7)
10 Three-horse sleigh (6)
11 Give a different outfit (8)
12 Strip of cut grass (6)
15 Contagion (6)
18 In an emergency (2,1,5)
20 Megalith (6)
22 Having died out (7)
23 Wrench (4)
24 Day nursery (6)

DOWN
2 Fisherman (6)
3 Having a flutter (8)
4 Perch for the night (5)
6 Projectiles for guns (4)
7 Oriental smoker's pipe (6)
8 Hate (6)
13 Atmosphere of place (8)
14 Moved on to solid food (6)
16 Opinion piece in paper (6)
17 Frustrate (6)
19 Caper (5)
21 Before long (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 81

ACROSS: 1 Carter 4 Topaz 8 Grant 9 Lincoln 10 Aligned 11 Ford 12 Eft 14 Extol 15 Regan 18 Eel 20 Bush 22 Inveigh 24 Lettuce 25 Run up 26 Own up 27 Bender

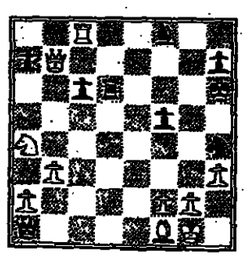
DOWN: 1 Cognate 2 Realist 3 Entangle 4 Tuna 5 Photo 6 Zoned 7 Glade 13 Traverse 16 Grinned 17 No-hoper 19 Libel 20 Baloo 21 Satan 23 Quip

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each. Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99. Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each. Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each. Book 11 £4.25. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Alkom Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released from Times Books. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each (inc p&p).

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



This position is from the game van der Sterren - Kamsky, FIDE Candidates, Game 1, Wijk aan Zee 1994. The black king looks unhappy on h6 but, in fact, it is the white king which faces greater dangers. Black to play.

Solution, page 29

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ANTIGROPELOS
a. Law court in ancient Athens
b. Waterproof leggings
c. An algebraic paradox

BOURDON
a. A type of biscuit
b. A low drone
c. A mule's pack-saddle

TESTOR
a. A witness
b. A City of London officer
c. A fencing visor

URTICATION
a. Argument
b. Going back to origins
c. Stinging

Answers on page 29

هكذا من الأصل